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Support

The design of UniFLEX, with its hierarchical file system and device independent I/O, allows the creation of a variety of complex support programs. There is currently a wide variety of software available and under development. Included in this list is a Text Processing System for word processing functions, BASIC interpreter and precompiler for general programming and educational use, native C and Pascal compilers for more advanced programming, sort/merge for business applications, and a variety of debug packages. The standard system includes a text editor, assembler, and about forty utility programs. UniFLEX for 6809 is sold with a single CPU license and one year's maintenance for \$450.00. Additional yearly maintenance is available for \$100.00. OEM licenses are also available.

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UniFLEX is offered for the advanced microprocessor systems. FLEX, the industry standard for 6800 and 6809 systems, is offered for smaller, single user systems. A full line of FLEX support software and OEM licenses are also available.



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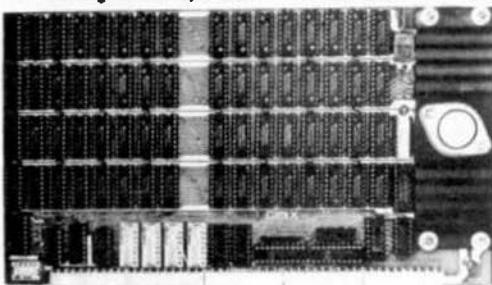
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see page 56 for more details on GIMIX® disk controllers



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BASIC⁰⁹TM

has a dual personality.

**One
craves
meat-and-
potatoes
BASIC.**



**The
other
prefers
Programme
ala Pascal.**

Some people say BASIC⁰⁹ is really a PASCAL in disguise, others say it's still BASIC. You'll understand this delightful dilemma when you look at both versions of the "bubble sort" program shown below: both can be run by BASIC⁰⁹. The program on top is unstructured and hard to understand, but it's traditional BASIC. The program on the bottom is well-structured and easy to follow, a virtue of PASCAL. With BASIC⁰⁹ you can program either way, or mix the best of both. It's like getting two languages for the price of one.



SORT AN ARRAY IN ASCENDING SEQUENCE

```
90 DIM A(5)
100 I=5
110 IF I=1 THEN 200
120 FOR J=1 TO I-1
130 IF A(J)<A(J+1) THEN 170
140 T=A(J+1)
150 A(J+1)=A(J)
160 A(J)=T
170 NEXT J
180 I=I-1
190 GOTO 110
200 RETURN
```

```
DIM array(5)
outer=5
WHILE outer>1 DO
    outer=outer-1
    FOR inner=1 TO outer
        IF array(inner)>array(inner+1) THEN
            temp=array(inner+1)
            array(inner+1)=array(inner)
            array(inner)=temp
        ENDIF
    NEXT inner
ENDWHILE
RETURN
```

Makes programs better

BASIC⁰⁹ has five kinds of loop structures: WHILE . . DO, REPEAT . . UNTIL,

LOOP . . ENDOLOOP, FOR . . NEXT and IF . . THEN . . ELSE. If one of the five built-in data types (byte, integer, real, string, and boolean) doesn't suit the problem, you can make a new one of your liking with the TYPE statement. Need a tree, linked list, or symbol table? Complex non-rectangular data structures using any combination of data types are easy to define. Modular programming breaks down large programs to smaller, more manageable elements. BASIC⁰⁹ lets you create independent program modules called "procedures" with local variables for recursion plus parameter passing to any other BASIC⁰⁹ or machine language procedure. There is a complete set of statements for device-independent sequential or random I/O, plus a superlative PRINT USING system.

Makes programs faster

No full-feature BASIC for any 8-bit microprocessor is faster than BASIC⁰⁹, because it is an interactive compiler. As each program line is entered, it is instantly compiled to a smaller, faster form. Because BASIC⁰⁹ automatically converts programs back to original "source" form for listing, it is as friendly and easy-to-use as traditional interpreter BASICs. Each procedure can be independently compiled to position-independent, reentrant, ROMable format. Microware^{*} developed a new ultra-fast 9-digit-accuracy floating point math system just for BASIC⁰⁹. And if that's still

not fast enough, there's BYTE and INTEGER arithmetic.

Features that make programs easier to write

The compiler is integrated with a full-feature string AND line-number oriented text editor. If you make a mistake, BASIC⁰⁹ tells you instantly. String-oriented commands such as search, change, change all occurrences, delete, and insert can be used on programs with or without line numbers. There's an automatic line renumbering function too.

Features that make programs easy to test

Debugging often takes longer than writing a program. That's why BASIC⁰⁹'s integral high-level debugger sets it apart from all other compiled OR interpretive languages. The TRACE command shows you each statement executed in BASIC form, plus the result of any expression evaluation. STEP lets you run one or more statements at a time. LET and LPRINT allow you to examine or change the values of variables, by name. STATE lists procedure calling order. And there are nine other debug commands. If you need to correct a program, you can edit, recompile, and rerun it in seconds.

Microware^{*} software is available for most popular 6809 computer systems. Source listings and yearly maintenance update service are sold separately for most programs.

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Sophistication does not require complexity. Many OS-9 users say that it is actually easier to use than the older 6800-type operating systems. Consider how easy it is to run multiple programs: to run a program you just type its name and hit 'return.' To run a program as a separate job, you type its name, an '&' character, then hit return. The program runs as usual, but OS-9 comes back immediately and is ready for your next command. Simple commands let you see each program's status, set its priority, or abort it.

The file management system has fast, byte-addressable random-and sequential-access files. The tree-structured multiple directory system lets you create separate disk directories for each user, project, or

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No other operating system can run on such a broad range of hardware: the overall RAM requirement for Level One is 32K to 56K RAM. Memory utilization is superlative because OS-9 lets multiple tasks "share" the same reentrant program. For example, if two users run BASIC®9, only one "copy" is actually loaded into memory. The Level Two version of OS-9 can utilize up to a megabyte of memory on systems having memory management hardware (both versions come with complete timesharing support).

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X-FORTH NEWS

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By Charles (Chuck) Eaker, Ph.D

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Frank

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BY JIM SCHREIER

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By Dick Bartholomew

**BASIC PROGRAMMERS
TOOLKIT**

- 1... DECOMPILE Turns BASIC into BAS files.
 2... XREF Cross reference listing of BASIC programs.
 3... EDIT Edit a BASIC program that's in memory while in BASIC!!!!

NOTE: For TSC XBASIC only.

**EXTENDED USE
UTILITIES PACKAGE**

1. CRTSET like TTYSET for CRT's
 2. USERINFO adds more than just diskname and number.
 3. SCAN List forward and backward thru a file.
 4. BROWSE like SCAN but in memory
 5. LOAD offset loader
 6. DISKDUMP to any port.
7. INIT memory set command
 8. SAVETEXT to disk
 9. READTEXT from disk
 10. REDIRECT change control part
 11. REPLACE prompt memory change
 12. MIRROR BACKUP fast sector copy

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PACKAGE**\$69.95 object only
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Six programs that allow you to protect your system by preventing a bootup without the proper password.

— Warning —

PASSWORD can be overcome if the user has access to another disk without password protection that will boot FLEX.

Programs are written in 6809 assembly language.

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From Dale Puckett

READTEST

This program actually reads a text file that you prepared and tells you how well it was written. READTEST is a must for all writers and writing instructors. Overall index tells who can read it and who would print it. Reports can be submitted with your articles or manuscript. Fast 68XX object code. Runs in Flex.

6800 OR 6809 ASMB. \$54.95 OBJECT
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ESTHER

ON DISK

The enhanced game of Eliza in fast machine language. Artificial intelligence in pure 68XX code. Great fun. Perfect demo program.

6800 OR 6809 ASMB. \$39.95 OBJECT
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From Peter Murray

JOB CONTROL PROGRAM

This is the most powerful program sold! Why? Because with it you can enhance every other program you own. A procedure file contains input for such calling programs as FLEX, FLEX utility commands and other development software. LIBJCP is used as a Flex command within a procedure to load and execute another procedure. Of all the programs we sell, this is the one we use the most and the one we would least like to do without! What more can I say.

6800 OR 6809 Object Only \$ 49.95
 With Source on Disk 89.95
 Upgrade from 6800 39.95

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Exclusively from FRANK HOGG

TIME/COST STUDY**by DIGITECH**

We are pleased to announce a time/cost study program written with the legal profession in mind. It will allow the attorney to keep accurate records of time and costs on a case/client basis. Reports can be generated at any time for any or all clients. Reports list the following: Client name and address; case numbers, entry dates, type of service, time, cost, check number, status(open, billed, paid), time/cost subtotal by the case, time/cost totals. Full editing for clients and/or cases.

System requirements are:
 6809 computer with 50K, FLEX, XBASIC, DUAL 8" double sided/double density disk, and a smart terminal.

Price \$400.00 includes 8" disk with compiled basic programs and manual.
 (source not available)

*The program can be modified for any time/cost type study.
 Contact Frank Hogg.

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PAY-DAYPayroll Program in XBASIC
by DIGITECH

- ... Maintains all information on all personnel.
- ... Handles hourly or salaried wages.
- ... Prints checks and W2 forms.
- ... Gives total report: weekly, quarterly, yearly.
- ... Report on any or all employees or just totals.
- ... Number of employees limited by disk size only.
- ... 8" double sided/double density will handle 100 employees on a weekly payroll.
- ... Tax tables and disability tables are easy to change.

PLUS EVERY LINE OF SOURCE IS INCLUDED ON DISK!
 \$195.00 includes manual and disk with source.

CT-82set

A handy utility for setting the most used functions of the SWTPC CT82. \$25.00 for the object when purchased with any other program. \$50.00 for the object and source.

SWTPC CT-82

From Dale Puckett

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ON DISK

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SOFTWARE CATALOG

PROGRAM	LANGUAGE	OBJECT	W/SOURCE ON DISK
X-FORTH	6809/6800	***\$149.95	
Dataman	TSC XBASIC	\$149.95	
Datasend	TSC XBASIC	49.95	
*Bill Paye	TSC XBASIC	89.95	
*Purchase Order	TSC XBASIC	49.95	
Income/Expense	TSC XBASIC	49.95	
(* All Three)	TSC XBASIC	169.95	
Basic Prog. Toolkit	6809 ASMB	349.95	69.95
Password Protection	6809 ASMB	69.95	89.95
Extended Utilities	6809 ASMB	49.95	69.95
Job Control Prog.	6800/6809 ASMB	49.95	89.95
Esther	6800/6809 ASMB	39.95	59.95
Readtest	6800/6809 ASMB	54.95	74.95
Help	6800/6809 ASMB	29.95	49.95
Dynasoft Pascal	6809	59.95	** 89.95
Plot	TSC XBASIC	44.95	
Read IRS80 Tape1	6809 ASMB	56.95	
Super Sleuth	6800/6809	90.00	
Z80 Super Sleuth	6800/6809	90.00	
Cross Assemblers	MACROS FOR TSC 6809 ASMB	EA. 49.95	
	6800/1, 6805, 6502, Z-80, 8080/5	3 for	99.95
Making Lnt	TSC XBASIC/6809	99.95	
Forms Display	TSC XBASIC/6809	49.95	
Tabula Rasa	TSC XBASIC/6809	100.00	
Time/Cost Study	TSC XBASIC/6809	400.00	
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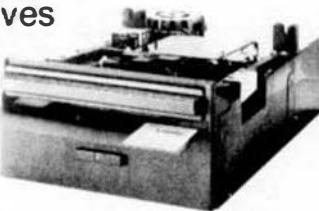
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Flex User Notes

BY: RONALD W. ANDERSON
3540 STRUBRIDGE COURT
ANN ARBOR, MI 48105

PRIMEST OF ALL PRIME PROGRAMS

In case you missed the July '68', there was a program by Brian Balley to calculate the primes to 10000, written in 6809 Assembler and using the Sieve of Erastosthenes method. It finds the primes in 2 seconds flat, and then outputs them to your terminal. Comparing that with my previous results using a divide for a test, it is about 25 times faster than my primes program in TSC Pascal. It is about 15 times faster than the Wirth Algorithm in TSC Pascal. I have written a Sieve program in BASIC, and it ran significantly faster than my other method. I just happened to settle on the divide test method for comparisons of compilers. I will have to write my algorithm in Assembler and see how fast it runs too. Meanwhile, I don't think anyone will improve on Brian's program for speed, unless maybe on a 68000 running at 8 or 10 Mhz.

NEW FROM LUCIDATA

Lucidata has a new product. It is a set of utilities that allow you to read directories and copy text files from "foreign" disks. It will work presently with Mini-FLEX, Smoke Signal Broadcasting DOS68, and Digital Research CP/M disks. Since SSB doesn't use TSC's method of space compression for a text file, there is even a utility that will convert a SSB file to standard FLEX format after it has been read from the SSB disk to a FLEX disk. I tried the Mini-FLEX utilities with instant success. I've been trying to get a disk from a friend who has CP/M to try, but haven't yet obtained it.

Along with the Directory and Copy utilities, (or should I say COPY and CATalog), there is a super utility called ANALYSIS. Analysis allows you to read a track, dump a sector, or do a statistical analysis of a track, that may be useful in determining why you can't read a particular foreign disk. All of the copy and catalog utilities are given in source code form. If you are able to do a track dump of some disk, and are smart enough or have enough time to dig, you may modify one of the copy utilities to work with another similar system. Consult Lucidata (or their ad in '68') for pricing details.

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Since a few months ago when I wrote some critical things about FORTH documentation from the Forth Interest Group, I've been severely stomped on by a couple of FORTH fans. Partly as a result of that column, I now have both tFORTH and XFORTH. Both work quite well. They have nicely done screen editors. Neither happened to have an editor version for my old AOM-3, so I had to get in and modify the supplied ones. They both have FORTH source screens for their editors, and the chore wasn't terribly difficult, about an evening each. In an effort to give FORTH a better try, I have managed to get the program REVERSE (see 101 Games in BASIC, published by Creative Computing, Morristown, NJ) translated into both versions of FORTH. There were some rather subtle differences in the way STRINGS work in the two versions, and I had some digging to do to make REVERSE work properly in both, but it is done, and the listing is half as long as the Pascal version. I have an Assembler program with lots of math routines, that lists 23 pages or so, and I decided to try converting it to FORTH too. I have all the calculation parts converted, probably about 12 pages worth, and it only took 5 screens, (less than two pages) of FORTH to do it. Further, it only took an evening to get it written and working.

I'd like to launch into a discussion of programming languages here. The main reason that languages are so different is that their authors (be they individuals, committees, or interest groups) started the language development with certain goals in mind. Not all languages are written with the same goals. For example, BASIC was written to be a beginner's language. It is intended to be easy to learn. It is sort of a way to "get your feet wet" with programming without having to make so many conscious decisions over details. Some people have felt that too many decisions were left out of BASIC. The most notable one being the ability to format the output of a number. Most of the extended BASIC compilers have added more or less standard output formatting features such as PRINT USING, etc.

BASIC's best feature, that of being easy to learn, does not mean that it is not a powerful language. I've found that I can do anything that I can do in other languages in BASIC too. The original BASIC was implemented as an interpreter as opposed to a compiler. It had, as do all interpreter BASIC versions, simple edit functions, so that a program could be edited and run interactively. If you have never used a compiler, you probably don't appreciate this interactive method of debugging a program. When I do what I would call "exploratory programming", the first steps toward working out an algorithm to solve a particular problem, I most often choose BASIC to work with. After I have something running, and find that I have an understanding of my problem, I switch to a compiled language to gain the speed that comes with a compiler over an interpreter.

Pascal was designed with quite another goal. Wirth's primary goal certainly was to design a language that would be excellent for teaching programming. Wirth is one of the foremost advocates of structured programming, so of course he would design the language to permit or even force the programmer to use structured programming techniques. The result is that a Pascal program listing is excellent documentation of the program. The structure of a program in Pascal is more formal than one in BASIC. It forces the programmer to think a bit longer about the variables he is going to use, and what they represent. A few of the extended BASIC's make a distinction between integer and floating point (Real) variables. Pascal makes a definite distinction between these types and has many other variable types.

As a result of the design of Pascal, a program written by a reasonably proficient programmer who has "caught the spirit" of Pascal is very easy for another programmer to read, understand, and change. In other words, the maintainability of the program is greatly enhanced by the structured approach.

My personal observation is that the amount of listing (number of lines of code) required to do a program in Pascal, is about 1/7 of that required to do the same program in Assembler. The amount of time required to debug the program is probably in about the same ratio.

Pascal may be implemented as an interpreter, but I know of no such implementations for the 68xx. It is more generally implemented as something between an interpreter and a compiler. The source is translated to a high level instruction code sequence known as Pseudo code or P-code. The P-code is designed to run a "hypothetical" computer that has certain features. The P-code is then run by means of a simple interpreter that makes the actual processor look like the hypothetical machine. The original idea was to make P-code standard so that compiled Pascal programs could be run on various computers, the only differences being in the P-code interpreter for that machine.

Because of speed limitations, some versions of Pascal have been written to be "native code" compilers. That is, they directly generate object code for the particular processor for which they were designed. These usually execute code 3 to 10 times faster than the P-code versions, though they generally produce code less efficiently, i.e. the number of bytes of output per page of listing may be greater with the native code versions.

FORTH was not designed to be easy to learn, nor was it primarily designed to be a structured language (though it does force structured programming since it has no GOTO statement, and many of the structured programming constructs have been added to it). I'm convinced that the primary goal of FORTH is to do a maximum amount of work with a minimum amount of source code. I never cease to be amazed that I can write a memory dump program in two lines. I did a Sine, Cosine, Arctangent (to 3 decimal places) program in three screens (one page) of source code. FORTH takes a lot of getting used to and a great deal of effort and memorization to gain reasonable proficiency in it. Once mastered, however, it will let you do a great deal in a short time. It is almost as interactive as BASIC, the editing and running of programs being possible without exiting FORTH. It comes complete with its own operating system and editor, which you can tailor for your needs.

FORTH is frustrating to learn because what some of the words do seems arbitrary and inconsistent with other similar ones do. It requires a lot of memorization or a good familiarity with a glossary so you can refresh your memory quickly. Most of debugging of a FORTH program is in finding out what words don't quite do what you thought they did. With proficiency, however, comes the ability to do some complex things very fast.

Fortunately, we don't all have to like the same things. The multiplicity of programming languages just means that each of us can find a suitable one for our needs. Your choice will depend on what you want to do with your computer as well as your personality and method of working. It is very fortunate for us as 68xx users that we have quite a few choices. Soon we will be seeing another language called "C". Some of us will like it and some won't. It will be another choice.

ITS EASY AS PIE

I have really enjoyed the recent commercials for office computers in which the operator types in and corrects the phrase "It's easy as PIE". You've all probably read the review in '68 by Randy Lewis of PIE, the text editor from Programma International, written by Tom Crosley. Tom presented me with a copy of his latest version optimized for the 6809 when I met him at the NCC show in Chicago. I was impressed with the early version, but this one runs twice as fast when doing a string search or a "relocation" of the edit window. I am using it now to write this text. Tom has a few more features in mind to make PIE even more versatile. Watch for the announcement of the official 6809 version.

HOW TO SAVE THAT TEXT IN MEMORY

Have you ever spent an hour typing in a text and then found that a short power interruption or some other snag has bombed the FLEX disk drivers and you can't save the file? That just happened to me at this point in this text. I had a utility in FLEX2 to save a text file from memory, and last time I nearly lost a file due to a power failure, I was going to get that utility and convert it to 6809 FLEX9 form. At any rate, I wasn't about to give up and type my whole file all in again from scratch particularly since I had been generating this "off the top of my head" as I went along. I decided to take a couple of chances and just found that if you boot FLEX and hit reset when it asks for the date, it doesn't overwrite memory with a test pattern. You then go to

warmstart \$CD03 for FLEX9, and use the SAVETXT utility, a listing of which is here. Since I didn't have SAVETXT in usable form, I did the next best thing and used SAVE. I first used the monitor to find the limits of the text file I had in memory. My text, having used PIE started at \$4B00, and ran almost to \$72FF. After using SAVE, it is necessary to edit the file and delete all the control characters inserted when saving a binary file. With PIE it is not too much of a job since all control characters in the file are indicated by . In the text, and just deleting the extraneous characters restores the file to its good state. However, a SAVETXT utility will be much better.

I've found my 6800 program, which was written by my friend Paul Patrick, and modified it for 6809 and FLEX9 use. As a matter of general interest, the 6800 version was \$117 bytes long, and the converted program is \$105 bytes. I'm sure a more efficient 6809 version could be written. This was a simple translation. The byte savings were in using Y as the pointer to memory, thus avoiding much loading and saving of X as is necessary in the 6800 version.

Remember, if you get stuck as I did, boot FLEX9. Don't answer the date prompt, but hit reset instead, then find the memory limits for the save, and jump to flex WARMs via OP CD03 G. All that remains is to use SAVETXT just as you would use SAVE for a binary file. You will find that your editor's text buffer always starts at the same address, so you will soon know what the starting address is. Then, just look through memory until you find the last part of the text you are trying to recover from memory, and you are all set.

While I am at it, I will include a FLEX2 version of the utility here. All the discussion above will apply to FLEX2 and the 6800 as well. With a few equate changes, the 6800 version will also run in MiniFLEX.

ASSEMBLER PROBLEM

In the May issue I posed a problem regarding an assembler program. The listing appeared in the June issue. Several readers have sent me listings produced by their assemblers that have the error marked and labeled "UNRESOLVED IN PASS 1". It appears that I don't have the latest version of either assembler (6800 or 6809). The problem, if you hadn't figured it out, was one of "multiple forward references". ORG PART2 is a forward reference. The assembler doesn't find the label PART2 until the very end of the first pass. It can't therefore handle the forward branch in the instruction BRA LABEL8, and the FDB LABEL8. It would require three passes in order to resolve these forward references, (i.e., two to resolve the symbol addresses and the usual "second pass" to generate the code). Apparently the fact that the assembler didn't detect such errors was fixed in a later version than mine. Thanks to all those who were interested enough to send me listings generated by their assemblers.

```

3          OPT    NO,PAG
100 ILLEGAL OPTION
5          |
6          |
7          | THIS PROGRAM WILL ALLOW SAVING OF A TEXT FILE FROM THE CONTENTS OF MEMORY
8          | IT IS POSSIBLE TO SCAN MEMORY WITH ANY OF THE AVAILABLE BUMP
9          | UTILITIES TO FIND THE LIMITS OF THE TEXT TO BE SAVED
10         |
11         | SYMBOL SAVETXT,FILENAME,STARTADDRESS,ENDADDRESS
12         |
13         | THE EXTENSION WILL DEFAULT TO .TXT AND THE DRIVE TO WORKING
14         |
15         | ORIGINAL FOR 6800
16         | BY PAUL PATRICK
17         | VPSILOMI RICHIGAN
18         |
19         | COMMENTED FOR 6809
20         | BY ROB ANDERSON
21         | VPSILOMI RICHIGAN
22         |
23         | 4840 1C8 1FU 54840  SYSTEM FILE CONTROL BLOCK
24         |

```

```

25      I
26      A005  NAME  ED0  MAM03  MOVEPRT1
27      A015  RETCD  ED0  MAM05  GET CHARACTER FROM TERMINAL
28      A016  PRTED  ED0  MAM06  PRINT STRING ROUTINE
29      A020  RETFL1  ED0  MAM09  GET FILE NAME FROM COMMAND LINE
30      A033  RETEX1  ED0  MAM03  SET DEFAULT EXTENSION
31      A037  RETER1  ED0  MAM0F  REPORT ERROE
32      A042  RETHE1  ED0  MAM02  GET HEX VALUE FROM COMMAND LINE
33      I
34      I
35      B405  FRCCLS  ED0  MAM03  EXIT, CLOSE ALL OPEN FILES
36      B406  FRS  ED0  MAM04  CALL TO FILE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
37      I
38      I
39      A100  I  000  0A100
40      I
41      A100  20  10  SAME  ED0  S002
42      A102  01  10  FCB  1  UTILITY VERSION NUMBER
43      A103  00  10  RDM  RD0  2  BEGINNING ADDRESS FOR SAVE
44      A105  00  10  RDM  RD0  2  ENDING ADDRESS FOR SAVE
45      A107  00  10  CDRAD  RD0  2  CURRENT ADDRESS USED TO TEST FOR VALID ADDRESS
46      I
47      I  BAD ADDRESS  E111
48      I
49      A109  DE  A1C0  DADAD  L00  BNS61
50      A110  00  A01E  JSR  PSTRNG
51      A110  TE  A003  JRP  MARKS
52      I
53      I  GET THE NEXT ADDRESS FROM THE COMMAND-LINE BUFFER
54      I
55      A112  DE  A000  RTADN  L00  AFCB
56      A113  00  A042  JSR  RETINC
57      A110  CS  FF  B10  BNF
58      A110  37  RTE
59      I
60      I  MAIN PROGRAM STARTS HERE
61      I
62      A118  DE  A040  SAVES2  L00  AFCB
63      A118  00  A020  JSR  BCF73L  SET THE FILE NAME FOR SAVE
64      A121  24  07  BCC  SAVES2
65      A123  06  15  L000  R21  FOR ERROR @1240
66      A125  07  01  STA0  L1,L
67      A0127  7E  A195  JRP  C0000
68      I
69      A129  DE  A040  SAVES  L00  AFCB  POINT AT FILE CONTROL BLOCK
70      A129  00  01  LDAA  R1
71      A125  00  A033  JSR  BCF11  TO .TST
72      A132  00  DE  BCF402  GET STARTING ADDRESS FROM COMMAND LINE
73      A134  23  03  L00  DADAD  TO IT VALID?
74      A156  DE  A103  ST1  REGAR  SAVF 11
75      A129  00  07  LD0  BCF100  GET ENDING ADDRESS
76      A120  23  CC  L00  CDRAD
77      A130  DE  A107  ST1  CDRAD  SAVE IT
78      A100  30  01  IRE
79      A162  DE  A105  ST1  ENDADR
80      A163  00  A107  LD00  CURADR
81      A140  7E  A100  LD00  CURADR+
82      A140  F0  A104  LD00  REGADR+
83      A134  02  A103  BCC  REGADR
84      A131  23  04  BCC  BACADR  ENDING ADDRESS LESS THAN STARTING
85      I
86      A153  DE  A040  OPEN  L00  AFCB
87      A158  00  02  LD00  R2
88      A150  07  01  STA0  L1,L
89      A134  00  A104  JSR  FMS  OPEN FOR WRITE
90      A130  26  30  BCC  FILEIN  BRANCH IF ERROR
91      I
92      A15F  DE  A103  L00  DADAD
93      A162  00  00  SAVES1  LDAA  0,1  GET A CHARACTER
94      A164  30  01  IRE
95      A166  04  07  LDAA  0,75  REMOVE PARITY 0,11
96      A168  01  20  CRPO  0,70  CONTROL CHARACTER?
97      A164  71  04  BCC  SAVES  00
98      A16C  01  00  CRPO  0,71  IS IT A CR?
99      A166  70  0E  BCC  BAC0
100     A170  DE  A107  SAVES  STS  CDRAD
101     A173  DE  A040  L00  AFCB
102     A176  00  A040  JSR  FMS  WRITE TO DISK FILE
103     A179  26  10  BCC  CDRAD
104     A179  DC  A107  L00  CDRAD
105     A170  DC  A103  SAVES  CPO  CDRAD  DONE?
106     A181  24  3F  BCC  SAVF  IF NOT GET ANOTHER
107      I
108     A183  DE  A040  LD0  AFCB
109     A186  00  04  LD00  R4
110     A180  07  01  STA0  L1,L
111     A16A  00  A104  JSR  FMS
112     A160  27  0C  BCC  E211  NO ERRORS
113     A165  00  01  FILEIN  LDAA  1,1  IF ERROR DETECTED RESUME NUMBER
114     A171  01  05  LD0  R3  TO 11,3?
115     A173  27  07  LD0  MFSOL  IF NO FILE ALREADY EXISTS, AND IF DELETE OK
116      I
117      I  QUIT EXIT
118      I
119     A195  DE  A03F  CTRD  JSR  RPTERR  REPORT ERROR
120     A198  00  B403  JSR  FRCCLS  CLOSE FILES
121     A190  7E  A003  EXIT  JRP  CDRAD
122      I
123      I  Q DELETE OLD FILE ?
124      I
125     A19E  DE  A1E6  ABSEL  L00  M0007  OK TO DELETE ORIGINAL FILE?
126     A191  00  1D  BCC  A0F  PRINT MESSAGE
127     A193  26  FA  BCC  E111  EXIT IF NOT OK

```

REMARKS

Well, we are about over moving day now, actually moving two weeks or so.

Computer Publishing Incorporated (CPI), parent company of 68 Micro Journal, Data-Comp Division and S.E. Media Supply has grown at a steady rate, over the past three years. We started out in the offices with Hamilton Publishing Inc. and later moved our office staff to the Hamill Road address in Hixson, Tennessee, where we have operated from for the past 2 and a half years. But our 'wall expander' could budge no more, so we moved into our new building known as 'Computer Publishing Center'. Computer Publishing Center is now home for all the family operations of CPI. Everything that is but a portion of the 68 Micro Journal editorial offices.

My personal office is still located at the old Hamill Road address in Hixson, Tennessee. Just couldn't bear to leave the horses, dogs, cats and my favorite fishing hole on the creek. Only about a mile and a half from the new offices so things worked out ok. By the time this is out we should have our new telephone system completed and will be able to keep in touch should any call.

Please use our new address shown below in all future correspondence as the post office is already having some slight difficulty getting our mail forwarded in a timely manner.

Computer Publishing Center
5900 Cassandra Smith Road
Hixson, TN 37343
(615) 842-4600

Last month I published our annual survey, for the first time. And I want to say that the response has been far more than I ever anticipated. Some very interesting data and viewpoints have emerged from this response of many hundreds of 68 Micro Journal readers. What is even more interesting is that some are not even subscribers and DO NOT own 68XX systems. Their input was in most all cases (about 27) reasons why they had opted not to go the 68XX route. In practically every case it was due to some dissatisfied 68XX user 'bad mouthing' the 68XX systems, or so they report. Twenty seven is not a very large number but it should not have happened. That they would even take the time to respond (they have no subscription to extend) is surprising. It behoves all of us, manufacturers and end users alike, to have a better understanding of each other's problems and gripes. As users we have a relatively large investment, we would like to have better and less expensive accessories and software for our systems. Also we would like more 'quality control', a lot more! This was one of the most, if not the most stressed remark in the entire survey. As retailers and manufacturers some of us need to 'get our act straight'. This includes our sister organizations, Data-Comp and S.E. Media Supply. There is some mighty potent competition knocking on the door and the 'old days' are about gone. There is no doubt that we (Standard S50 Bus users) have one of, if not the finest small computer (and some not so small) systems available today. But now is not the time for sitting and beaming, rather it is a time to look about and decide what we can do to make our lot better, and help assure our survival.

One other thing that catches my attention as I review the surveys as they come in is that a very high percentage are well satisfied with their systems. Not that they do not have complaints and gripes, but they know that the outsiders have had probably more problems than we have. All in all we have had the best of it, despite a few bad apples and a lot of growing pains Standard S50 Bus Industry wise.

As soon as we can get the data all sorted out I will be reporting to you on some portions of this survey. So far, including data we had previously, we have over 2,000 survey inputs, that are fairly recent. From this amount of data some fairly accurate conclusions can be made.

Also I have been receiving a large amount of mail from those who either want to do reviews for the TRS-80 Color Computer (6809) or would like to be placed on a list of available hard/software programmers and designers. I will attempt to keep this list as current as possible. The response to both of these was so great that I will not be able to reply to each and everyone. But if anything comes up, that you might slot into, you will be hearing from someone. Meanwhile I want to thank all who responded, even tho I doubt that I can ever use all that volunteered for reviews.

DMW - - - -

COLOR USER NOTES

* * COLOR COMPUTER Users Notes * *

by Robert L. Nay
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INTRODUCTION:

Many of you have noticed the "Development" of a magazine, especially a specific coverage "mag" like '68 MICRO JOURNAL. It begins by filling a need - in, in this case, coverage of the 68XX world. It starts with a group of people with a special interest and desire, and grows and develops with the people who are the prime contributors and supporters. '68 MICRO JOURNAL has done an excellent job of tying the 68XX users together, and the contributors and supporters are to be commended. A simple but comprehensive Bus Byteee has evolved with a standardization and flexibility that is the envy of the competition. And it works and Works and WORKS! This has resulted in the extremely rapid development of powerful and flexible Operating Systems with a high degree of compatibility and utilization of the most powerful 8-bit CPU chip available. To the newcomer to the 68XX scene, it may seem that the primary following of '68 MICRO is working on a Multi-K system with Disks stacked everywhere, at Multi-Mag speeds. Consequently, every once-in-a-while, a small QUESTION MARK comes floating up out of all the DOUBLE SIDE/TRACK/SECTOR, MULTIBER, PIPELINE, DOS, DMA, etc., in the hope it can find a small crack to hang onto and pull itself up to a level that it can at least get a glimpse of something understandable and useable.

Then, finally, a crack appears. A POWERFUL marketing system throws a little tidbit to the hungry questioners at the RADIO SHACK COLOR COMPUTER. It often seems that every engineering manhour went into making it as secret and non-standard as the eightiest brains could dream up yet, it's got almost as much latent power per dollar invested as an Atomic Bomb. It's being bought by the thousands as a toy for grandchildren as a tool to try to teach logical thinking and processes to school children as an interesting little computer to play with by the pros and, MOST IMPORTANTLY, by the multitude who want to learn what makes a computer tick and how to use one. I would venture to guess that the great majority of this last group of purchasers are young, venturesome, questioning, determined, and, hopefully, BRAVE! The COLOR COMPUTER is a pathway into the "Land Of The Computers", and the price of admission isn't bad. The COLOR COMPUTER purchasers have rapidly gone through the SHACK's "eager" Information, broken the Cartridges' secret "thief of the computer", found it to be extremely easy to DOUBLE the maximum memory Tandy had provided (at ANY cost), and is making inroads into breaking the "CLASSIFIED-HIGHEST POSSIBLE TOP SECRET" BASIC ROM code.

GENERAL:

This all leads up to the "COLOR COMPUTER Users Notes". Every issue of '68 MICRO JOURNAL has at least one, and usually several, criss-cross information on a less sophisticated system. I AM NOT IN ANY WAY insinuating that '68 MICRO JOURNAL back off of the level of the information it is presenting. It is a fantastic publication. Personally, I've found it takes me longer to read an issue of the '68 MICRO JOURNAL than any of the much larger publications; this little guy is CRAMMED with information. I'm suggesting, especially to you "pros", that we include 'us' (not-so-exp, struggling to get there too) folks in this publication also. The present "battlefield" seems to be in the areas of Sorting and Programming Methods; how about some discussions on File Handling Techniques, Look-up Tables, Linking methods, etc., etc. Remember, a lot of the new '68 MICRO JOURNAL readers haven't "been there" yet, so how about passing on what easy seems to be a simple or basic bit of information; there will be many that will learn from it. Send it to me, to Dan, to the Bit Bucket, but SEND IT! We'll be looking at and discussing ANYTHING that pertains to the COLOR COMPUTER in this column. The machine was designed to be an inexpensive system with a good TV graphics capability, and that it is. Its' strong points are the price (since it hooks directly to a TV, a Monitor does not have to be purchased); an outstanding version of BASIC that was fine tuned for TV graphic display and audio output (it "Benchchecks" right up with the 4MHz '80' systems) on an interpretive operating system even though the COLOR COMPUTER clock runs at less than 0.999Hz - re Aug 81 "Interface Age" pB8); and it uses the 6809E chip. The electronics consist of 4 different 40 pin LS1's, the Power Supply, and a few odd chips. Weak areas are primarily the results of holding the price down and making the system as specialized. The keyboard is a plastic "calculator type" switching system which is prone to result in sticky key buttons (read on! I'll give you a FIX for that shortly), but does have good "feel" once you get used to it and the actual switches should be trouble-free and are easy to clean should the need arise. The Keyboard Output gives you very little in the way of non-alphanumeric codes for controlling a Printer and the RS-232 "SERIAL 1/0" pin connections are a typical Radio Shack fool'd-up mess (also some solutions to follow). The BASIC being in ROM is "safe" in that programming errors won't wipe it out, but they tie up a lot of real estate, restricting you to a maximum of 48K usable memory until we get it out on Disk or Cassette (I've already run out of my 32K a couple of times). In general, it's a good system with fantastic potential, and we do have some excellent software and hardware becoming available for it (also MORE info shortly). Finally, the physical design and construction of the electronics sure aren't up to very high standards. I have already repaired five bad solder joints in my set, so if you aren't "hip" on electronic repairs, don't void your 90 day warranty. It seems that about 70% of the COLOR COMPUTERS are going to need some work stay close to your Salesman because my experience with two different Radio Shack Computer SERVICE CENTERS has been BAD; your Salesman can help get a problem solved, where I've found the Service Center personnel to have a "I could care less" attitude. Conversely, I've found the MOTOROLA people to be EXTREMELY HELPFUL and interested in any problem you may have with a specific chip.

COLOR COMPUTER!

First, let's look at a few things that will greatly improve your chances of having a trouble-free COLOR COMPUTER. The biggest problem that normally shows up is heat. The Power Supply generates quite a bit of heat, and the 6803 SAM also run hot. On my unit, the Cassette operations became unreliable after a couple hours computer time. The 6821 PIA's then became intermittent, causing both "Load" and "Save" problems. The solution is two-fold: first, make sure air can flow freely through the chassis; and second, read and accomplish the procedures outlined by Bob Margeson in the May 81 issue of '88' MICRO JOURNAL beginning on page 38. In addition to ventilating the Power Transformer mounting area and painting the RF Shield cover black, I also drilled a $\frac{1}{8}$ " hole in the shield and installed an IC heat sink on the 6803. I have not had a problem since I accomplished those changes. Next item I have heard of some problems with the 32K "piggy-back" mod (it has been written up several times as Bob did, and normally it works OK). If the 4116 memory chips are good, etc., then the problem is probably "ringing" on the chip select pins. This can be a real puzzle, and normally shows up with the faster 4116's. What is causing the problem is the exceptional speed of the 6803 SAM chip! It is not a MOS device. The solution is to replace the plain wire lead going from the 4116 pin 4's (chip select) with a 32 ohm resistor; this will provide enough damping to eliminate the problem. The Printed Circuit board on the PC Board has enough inductance to prevent the problem on the first 16K chips, the resistor takes care of the second set. Next, the "sticky keys". This drove me up a tree for a while. I tried several things which either didn't work or created a real mess. Finally, the light dawned - POWDERED GRAPHITE. Dust around the keys - pour it on good - and run your hand up and down the keyboard, working it between them like you've seen "kids" run their hand up a piano keyboard. After it's worked in good, and the edges of the key buttons look like they have been rubbed with a pencil, take a relatively soft brush and sweep the excess off. I haven't had problems since I did mine, and I sure have used it hard and heavy since. Finally, be extremely careful when plugging cartridges in and out. In fact, DON'T do it with power on the computer. That's the SAFE way. You can blow the 6809E CPU and/or the 6803 SAM chips if YOUR luck is bad, so why risk it. I know, you see kids yanking them out and stuffing them in the store, and things work fine. If you look close at the Board Edge in the Radio Shack Cartridges, you will notice that one PC board does not cover all the way out to the edge. That is the +5 Volt lead, and it insures that all other connections are made before power is applied to the cartridge if the computer is turned on (according to TRADY). BUT, why take the chance? Also, most of the other cartridges available for the COLOR COMPUTER do NOT have that lead shortened! If you get used to inserting and removing the RS cartridges with power on, you may forget when you use a different unit. As Ron Anderson so aptly put it in his Aug column, the probability of your blowing out a chip is so near a sure thing that there is little use in trying to calculate it. TURN THE MACHINE OFF for inserting or removing cartridges, and you won't have a problem.

REVIEWS:

DATASOFI, INC.
16606 Schenborn Street, Sepulveda, Ca. 91343

S.E.C.S. (Screen Edit Control System) Cassette Tape: \$29.95

REQUIREMENTS: 4K to use the EDITOR 16k for the Character Generator and Hi-Resolution Graphics. Extended Basic NOT required.

FEATURES: 4K system - the EDITOR portion of the Program is the only part of the Program that is useable on a 4K COLOR COMPUTER. The EDITOR provides the capability of Editing Basic Statements thru the insertion or deletion of characters without having to re-type the whole Statement. The Program is loaded by entering CLOADM"SEC8" and then EXEC <ENTER>, and displays a backward slash with a black flashing cursor. You then operate as though the program was not loaded in the computer except for the Editing capability (i.e., all normal commands and functions are entered and used just as if B.E.C.S. was not loaded in the Computer). This portion of the program works good and no problems were noted.

16K system - The extra memory allows the use of the Hi-Res portions of this Program (the Hi-Res portions allocate and use either 3K or 4K video screens the same as Extended Basic). This Program is loaded with CLOADM"GE-SEC8" and then EXEC <ENTER>. This loads the Editor and the Hi-Res capabilities (and also DISABLES EXTENDED BASIC if it is installed). The Hi-Res Graphics provides various screen Color, Dot, and Line functions equivalent to Ext. Basic's PRMODE 1 (SEC8's CLS SET#3) and PRMODE 2 (SEC8's CLS SET#1). One interesting feature of SEC8 is that while in the CLS H mode, you do not have the keyboard display on the screen, but you DO have keyboard control (i.e., CLS H, J provides a red screen, then if you enter SET (40,10,11), a yellow dot appears at location 5,10. In addition, since you could not see an error message - remember no keyboard display, you're working blind - an audio warning is org-vision to indicate an error). You may want a note pad handy when working this mode.

The Character Generator is a BASIC Program loaded with CLOAD "PC-EDIT" and then RUN. This brings up a "menu" consisting of 16 single-key commands yielding tape controls, screen, color, and resolution control, and the "E" for end of program. These commands are functional AFTER the Character Generator Display is up. <ENTER> brings it up from the menu. This was one place we ran into a problem: <ENTER> was hit while the Char. Gen. Display was being produced - it wiped out the whole program. We had to shut the computer down to clear memory and reload the programs we were unable to get back from RESET or to reload and reEXECute until a complete Power-On RESET was accomplished. (We also did it two more times with the same results to make sure it wasn't a fluke - be careful which keys you hit when in the Char. Gen. mode!) This mode presents 64 characters and allows you to change them to develop your own characters, and store them on tape for user later.

DOCUMENTATION: The instructions with this program leave a lot to be found out the hard way - it took us over a half hour to get the Program up and running. We read thru the instructions and started at the beginning by loading the 4K editor to check it out with the CLOADM"SEC8" and EXEC routines. It looked OK, so on to the Hi-Res Graphics; so we thought. Again, the "can't get there from here" problem we mentioned with the char. gen. If you have loaded and EXECuted "SEC8", there is no way to get BASIC's EXEC pointer back, we had to shut down and come back from a Power-On start to be able to get CLOADM"GE-SEC8" to EXEC. (We also verified this a couple times, and with both copies of the program on the tapes; once the EXEC pointer is used, even the tape programs do not reset it.) This would normally not be a problem because you will normally

only use the Program that applies to your system - my point is that proper documentation would have prevented the problem. ALSO, if you had wanted the 16K version of the program to start with (GE-SEC8), you would still have run into this problem because the instructions do not specifically identify a loading procedure for each one, nor are they very specific about which does what (we assumed the EDITOR must do something besides insert and delete chars., which is the only thing the instructions discusses, and since there was no mention of getting back and forth between BASIC and the EDITOR, AND since we were already familiar with the EXEC problem, we started trying different things and found out that you have normal BASIC operation and functions while in the EDITOR mode). Since this Program is obviously intended for the new Computer users with a basic system, the documentation should be very complete, and provide a guide to help new operators get it "up and running" with NO problems. (On the same subject, while the EXEC pointer problem will not really be a problem with this program, it is a weak point which should not be there. The Char. Gen. wipe-out problem IS a problem, and hopefully, steps will be taken to eliminate it.)

SUMMARY: This can be a good program for those systems without EXTENDED BASIC by providing a simple but needed EDITOR and an introduction to High Resolution Graphics if the documentation is aimed at that user and if a few minor "bugs" will be cured. S.E.C.S. does perform the functions you see advertised for it and could be a good program for the COLOR COMPUTER user.

DATASOFI, INC.
16606 Schenborn Street, Sepulveda, Ca. 91343

BIGMON (Mech. Lang. Monitor, Debugger, and Mini-assembler)
Cassette Tape: \$29.95

REQUIREMENTS: 16K Memory; does NOT require or use EXTENDED BASIC.

FEATURES: "BIGMON" is a powerful and versatile Machine Language Monitor, Debugger, and Mini-assembler, which gives you access to the machine language capabilities of your TRS-80 COLOR COMPUTER (TR80CC). This quote is the first statement in the Instruction Manual, and precisely summarizes the Program. I have found it to be excellent and extremely useful, and it provides features I have not found in other programs of this type for the Color Comp.

The BIGMON Commands and their function are as follows (Note: parameters enclosed in these brackets <> are optional in the Command Lines):

MODE <H> —> "MODE" is the default command and requires all Hexadecimal Entries to be preceded by the dollar sign (\$0FF, \$AICL). "MODE H" causes BIGMON to expect ALL numeric entries to be Hex. PRV/NOPRT —> "PRV" links the Printer to the Screen Display (i.e., anything seen on the screen is printed) NOPRT turns it off. DUMP/DUMPB <start address>,<end address> —> These Commands dump the current address in the left column, followed by 8 Hex bytes (All numeric outputs of BIGMON are Hexadecimal); then, right below these bytes, the corresponding ASCII code if below \$80, or a portion if DUMP or a Graphic Block if DUMPB if over \$80. It then proceeds with the next 8 bytes, etc.

LIST <start address>,<end address> —> This Command produces a 25 byte row preceded by the address. The output is ASCII/Or. Block. DIS <start address>,<end address> —> This is the Disassembler Command. It is basically a single line disassembler (no labels, symbol tables, X-reference tables, etc.) with the output in the Address, Opcode, Operand, and Mnemonic field format, followed by the actual address referenced by the Opcode Offset for that program's present position. Relative addressing would be shown as:

3800 AD BC00 LDA 3810,PC to indicate relative to the PC.

FIND <start address>,<end address> —> This lets you find select any single or combination of values, including Mnemonic code and displays the address or addresses at which it was found. ABM <start address> —> This is the Mini-assembler Command. It provides the capability of entering numeric or character values directly into memory, and operates as a single-line assembler when entering mnemonics.

MOVE <start address>,<end address>,<target address> —> This provides the standard "move a block of memory from here to there" Command.

BSTEP <start address> —> This command is the Master Tracer routine. It displays the current register contents and then the next line in Disassembled form. Pressing the Spacebar or any key then lists the registers from that statement and presents the next one. This continues until you either exit the mode with <ENTER> or get a "ROM 80?" message, where a "Y" will proceed into the ROM and probably dump you back into BASIC, or an <ENTER> or "N" exits the mode.

BREAK <addr1>,<addr2>,<addr3>,...<addr9> —> This allows the insertion of up to 9 break-points in RAM when running a program. These cause an SMI to be inserted, and when encountered, the registers are displayed and the code which the breakpoint replaced is reinserted in the program. There are provisions for killing all brkpts, any one, or displaying the current ones.

SET <reg> —> "SET <ENTER>" displays the current registers; "SET CC=\$00" would load the Cond. Code Register with Hex \$00. All registers except the "B" can be assigned values.

GO <address> —> This transfers program control to the address specified to "RUN" a Machine Language program.

SPSPEED <value> —> This sets the video scrolling rate; value is 0-255.

EXIT —> Returns you to BASIC.

WRITE "<filename>,<start address>,<end address>,<entry point> —> This produces a standard Mech. Lang. tape which can be read with either CLOAD or back into BIGMON.

READ —> This Command reads a Mech. Lang. tape into BIGMON.

PLDAD —> This function allows BIGMON to read a data file entered from the Serial Port at 600 Baud. The Data File (first is specified in the Instructions).

GENERAL COMMENTS: BIGMON is a relocatable machine language program which normally occupies memory locations \$0FF2-\$2762. It is an easy-to-use, forgiving program, quickly putting the user at ease with it. The DUMP, LIST, and DIS commands allow the analysis of small to large programs, but the system is more suited to shorter programs. The DISassembler can not interpret ASCII characters in code, but the DUMP or LIST commands point these areas of a program out, and the "Junk" output from it in these areas can be ignored. Since it is basically a single line disassembler, it is not easily confused, and you will seldom need to restart it at the end of a String to get "back in sync". The lack of labels, symbol tables, cross references, etc., is not a hindrance with small programs (or sections of large ones), and the "uncluttered" output is easy to follow. The output of the DISassembler appears

to be standard Motorola syntax, but I have not tried to run it on one of the full Assembler Systems yet. The SIGMON Assembler is as easy to use as the rest of the program, and follows the standard Motorola syntax except the "Auto Decrement" Mnemonics, where the minus signs must follow the register when using SIGMON, instead of preceding them. The SIGMON Monitor, Disassembler, and Assembler are very convenient to use for studying and inserting small changes to operational programs - you can easily change branch addresses, for example, or allow inserting a different capability into a program. For example, the following entries change the STEP Printer output to a single line listing of the registers if you have an 80 col. Printer, but do not affect the video output (it also extends the programs memory use to e2812):

Assembler Input:	OBJ output after transferring the program to \$4FF2 to check Relocatability
>>ASM \$2306	>>OBJ \$6B16
2306= BBR \$27FB	6386 17 843F LBSR 67FB
2306= <ENTER> to exit, \$2389 left unchanged)	\$2389 left unchanged)
>>ASM \$27FB	>>OBJ \$67FB \$6B12
27FB= TBT \$271F,PC	67FB 60 BDFF23 TBT 671F,PCR
27FC= BEQ \$295A	67FC 1827 FD5A LBSR 655A
2800= PSHB A	6800 34 02 PSHB A
2802= LDH \$0226	6802 84 26 LDH \$0226
2804= BBR \$2310	6804 17 FD09 LBSR 6518
2807= CLR \$271F,PC	6807 6F BDFF14 CLR 671F,PCR
2808= BBR \$255A	6808 17 FDAC LBSR 655A
280E= BBR \$21ED	680E 17 FD04 LBSR 61E5
2811= PULB A,PC	6811 33 B2 PULB PC,A
2813= (again, <ENTER> to exit the mode)	

DOCUMENTATION: The Documentation that comes with SIGMON is excellent. Provided are two booklets on Instruction Manual and a "nightlight commented" Source Code booklet. The major portions of the program consist of the Command Parser, Dis-assembler, Step Processor, Single Line Assembler, standard Monitor Command section, and the I/O package section. The Instruction Manual lets you know right off the bat just what you have, a discussion of the TRS-80 tape buffer area, how to load the tape, and the programs use in conjunction with BASIC and the WR statement. There is very little confusion about what you have or how to use it, and NONE about how to get "up and running". I would suggest a note on a recommended Book for use with the Assembler file, what is the "standard Motorola syntax", for those just beginning to get into Machine Language Programming - and this program is one of the best I have seen for starting out, but in general, the Documentation is outstanding.

SUMMARY: This is an outstanding offering for use on the COLOR COMPUTER. The price is very reasonable, and both beginners and Pros alike will find it to be a valuable addition to their software library. As previously stated, it is easy to use for those just beginning to delve into Machine Languages Programming, and is really nice for those "small changes" to programs, or for whipping out a simple program without having to figure branches and offsets manually. OUTSTANDING PROGRAM!

QUICK LOOKS:

This section of the "COLOR COMPUTER Users Notes" will be devoted to presenting an initial look at new products that have come in for review. We will then provide more complete coverage of many of the products in a later "Users Notes" column in early the next issue. It is felt that this format will help both the prospective purchaser and the manufacturer by providing an objective view of the product in a timely fashion, and still provide us with the time to use it enough to be able to present a good review as soon as possible. Many new products are becoming available for this system, and our primary concern is to get the information out to you quickly. Drop us a note and let us know your opinion on this procedure, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

The MICRO WORKS
P.O. Box 31116 Del Mar, Ca. 92014

CBUG MONITOR (available either on TAPE or in a ROM)

CBUG is an approximately 2K monitor which is entirely relocatable. Instructions are provided for installing the ROM version in a Tandy Diagnostic Pak (and I will show how to make it switch selectable to allow use of either the Diagnostic or CBUG next month). CBUG provides Register display, Memory read/change, Insert, Transfer blocks of mem, JSR, Change reg., Save to Cassette, Set baud rate, Load hex to mem, Upload and Download, setting break points, hex to decimal & vice versa, a couple of terminal modes, and an interesting "Move display page" functions. All this is normally accomplished with single-key commands. The instructions provide a commented Source Listing and some good info on Hi-Res Graphics on the COLOR COMPUTER. It is an excellent program - I have it on ROM in the Diagnostic Pak and just leave it plugged in almost all the time; it's a handy item to have "on board".

BBC DISASSEMBLER (on TAPE)

The BBC DISASSEMBLER is a full-function disassembler which allows specifying different area types at the discovered locations and provides 6 different output formats. It is a 2-pass disassembler which identifies labels and provides full symbol and cross reference tables. The output can be directed to either the screen or to a Printer. One of the output options provides a standard Source Code format, which can be edited as required and run on a standard Assembler. It was designed primarily to disassemble the BASIC ROM's in the COLOR COMPUTER, and the instructions give a Memory Map of Computer and some interesting Addresses in the BASIC ROM. A note on interfacing a printer to the COLOR COMPUTER is also included. Finally, a fully commented Source listing is provided. As to be expected from The MICRO WORKS, this is another excellent piece of software.

BDS BBC (Software Development System)

The BDS BBC is a Cartridge which plugs in the Cartridge slot on the COLOR COMPUTER. It contains three separate programs: an Editor, an Assembler, and a Monitor. (The Monitor is a special version of the CBUG mentioned previously, called ABUG.) The Editor comes up first, and is used for entering source code and editing code entered from the keyboard or mass storage. Typing the at symbol (@) gets from the Edit mode to the Assembly mode when called, several options can be chosen from developing symbol tables to generate code to memory, tape, and/or printer. The BDS BBC supports all standard instructions, address modes, and mnemonics and in addition, it features support of local labels, conditional assembly, 6800 instructions

for cross-assembly, and control of the output listing. Pseudo Op codes supported include the conditional assembly codes of JXX, ELSE, EIF (End IF) the standards like END, EOU, FCB, FCC, FDB, NAM, ORG, and RMB; the SETDP to inform the system that DP has been set, OPT, PAGE, and TTL for compatibility with other Assemblers and NLST/LIST for listing control. BPC leaves a blank line to provide program readability and to delimit Local Variables. You are automatically transferred to the DEBUG Monitor after an Assembly run. This monitor provides single-key commands including the normal Go, Memory examine/change, Register list/change, Transfer blocks of memory, Jump to subroutine, and Save/Load cassette. It also supports a command to Evaluate expressions (? NERF — prints the value of NERF; ? 128+32A+6F) -- a Hex calculator, etc.), and a command to Unstack, or remove the symbol table to free memory space. The & symbol returns you to the Editor from the Monitor, and the @ gets you from the Assembler back to the Editor. The Instruction Manual provided does not provide the commented Source Listing you are used to seeing from the MICRO WORKS, but this is by far the best Manual they have produced in the COLOR COMPUTER software line. Besides the discussions of the three programs use, there is a summary of the 6809 Assembly Language and Appendices on Memory Full Conditions, ROM Entry Points, Timing Loops, Interfacing a Printer, Use with the Disassembler, and ASCII and Screen Codes. The 6809 Assembly Language section also discusses Position Independent Code (PIC) and 6809 Cross-assembly and its potential problems.

INTERFACING THE COLOR COMPUTER with a PRINTER:

The SERIAL I/O connector on the back of the COLOR COMPUTER is the only link with a Printer that Radio Shack has provided so far. Their literature has provided more confusion than good information. It looks like Microsoft (which wrote the BASIC and Control Bytes) and Tandy were on different wave lengths as far as the Serial Output port is concerned.

The Serial Data out of this port is formatted as 1 start bit (always low), 7 data bits, and 2 stop bits (always high) with no parity. This works all right if the only thing you want out of this port is ASCII characters, but it imposes some restrictions if you want to use some of the newer printers with the COLOR COMPUTER, as the Graphics Block and some of the Control Codes need the 8th bit. Tandy has finally realized this, and now provides a free (yep, FREE!) Cassette Tape routine which loads in HIGH RAM (to these it doesn't read the amount of memory and adjust it's location, and it is not relocatable, so it will have to be adjusted to get it out of the way on the 32K and over systems - we'll look at this next month) called PTFX. It is Catalog Number 780-2013, and one side (PTFX4K) loads into a 4K machine, and the other side of the tape (PTFX16) loads into the 16K machines. This provides the 8 bit output for Graphics Block, etc. By the way, the Apple II only puts out 7 bits also, and it has some of the Control Codes trapped so that a few of the Printer software Controls are real hard to use. Tandy's normal attitude of "We're the greatest, let the world conform to US" got bent a little bit when they began selling the Line Printer VII, which needs the 8th bit. Just like Epson MX series, as they provided us with it (I would guess this also means that the rest of the world can now produce Printers using 8 bit inputs).

OK, we have the data going out to the Printer! It leaves the Computer Serial I/O port on pin 4 of the 4-pin DIN connector in the Computer. This is labeled "TD", or Transmit Data, in the TRS-80 COLOR COMPUTER OPERATION MANUAL supplied with the Computer, and is correctly labeled. This output will go to the "RD", or Receive Data, pin on Printer connector, which will be pin 3 of the standard RS-232C 25 pin connector found on almost any Printer with a Serial Input. Pin 3 on the Computer is labeled GROUND, which is what it really is. (Now, two for the right, so far.) This will go to the Printers' GROUND (sometimes called CHASIS or SIGNAL GROUND, also - in most cases they are the same thing!) this will be pin 1 on the standard 25 pin connector. So far, we have info going from the computer to the printer, and the grounds tied together (so that +5 Volts at the computer will be +5 Volts at the printer too) now the fun starts. The Computer must be able to tell when the Printer is "Busy", and doesn't have time to "Receive Data" right now; this is accomplished by hooking the "busy" line (also called "busy out" or "status out" in some units) from the Printer to the "Status In" or "Carrier Detect" line on the Computer. But, IT WILL NOT WORK on the COLOR COMPUTER. The CD line, pin 1 on the COL. COMP., is not monitored by the BASIC Operating System's printer Character Output routine pin 2, labeled "RD" (Receive Data) is the input that is monitored to check for "Printer Busy". This means that the "busy" signal out of the Printer (pin 28 on a standard 25 pin RS-232 connector) must be hooked to pin 2 of the COLOR COMPUTER'S Serial I/O connector. Also, pin 2 on the Computer must be high to allow it to send data to the printer, or "enable the output". Most Printers have several switches which allow the selection of various options, and the choice of "busy" high or low to enable the Computer's output will be one of these. While I think of it, another term used with printers for "busy" is "Printer Buffer Full" or "Printer Buffer NOT Full". As you can see, this can also get confusing! What the Computer must see is a HIGH signal on pin 2 before it will send data to the Printer - that's about as "unconfused" as I can think of to put it! So, what we end up with, if all this discussion hasn't clouded things even more, is:

COLOR COMPUTER	PRINTER
pin 1 ----- no connection	
pin 2 ----- pin 28 = BUSY (standard RS-232 conn)	
pin 3 ----- pin 7 = GROUND	=
pin 4 ----- pin 3 = REC DATA	=

Now that we are able to communicate with a printer, what is the COLOR COMPUTER capable of saying? Well, in "speak-easy-English", it does OK but in "speak-easy-PRINTER", it don't do so good. It was designed to do all kinds of fancy things, in COLOR even, on a TV Screen; that it does GREAT. But it lacks a few non-English, non-TV Screen keys on the keyboard to allow talking fluent PRINTER. Far and away the greatest shortcoming is the lack of an "escape" key which generates a Key Code "1B" when pressed. The second major shortcoming is the lack of a "Control" key. Working around the Control key won't be too bad, as it's major area of usage is in Software situations, and the software can be written to define an available key to handle this function; but the Escape key is another problem. The majority of a versatile printer's commands are preceded by the Escape key; since it has no ASCII alphanumeric character, it is invisible for printer DUT-PUT, and therefore is used to alert the printer to the fact that the character immediately following it is not to be printed, but is to be used as a command telling it to change line spacing, character type, etc. With the MS-80, almost half of the commands use the Escape key, and 36 of the 52 commands used in the new GRAFTRAX 80 Bit-Pilot Graphics Printer option require it. Driving a printer from BASIC is no problem as far as the Escape Code is concerned; it is CHR(127). The CHR(\$xx) expression will output ANY Code with this Computer; the pro-

ble with using BASIC for printing this column, for instance, is that you sure would get tired of typing PRINT#2,"xx something as" for EACH INDIVIDUAL LINE of print you see written here. This problem can also be overcome with properly written software; you have no idea how much I'm looking forward to receiving Nelson Software Systems' SUPER "COLOR" WRITER wordprocessor for this machine (a full report on it will be in this column next month, too). The **(CLEAR)** key puts out **ESC**, which is the normal Printer Control for Form-Feed! I have modified a few of my programs to change a **ESC** to **\$1E** and use the **(CLEAR)** key for Escape. The Epson MX-80 has a Form-Feed button handy, so I just "do without" using it in the text - it's not optimum, but it does allow much greater control of the Printer within the text. The COLOR COMPUTER does not output a Line-Feed with the Carriage-Return. This means that the LF must either be generated thru software, or with switch selections in the Printer. Personally, I feel it should be switch selected, and software written with that in mind; otherwise, we will have to change switch selections each time we run a different program, which is not easy on some printers. The MK-80 has several options available in this area, and the new GRAFTRAX 80 option provides a "Home Printer Head" command which simplifies underlining (which doesn't work on mine - it may be incompatible with the Serial Board).

Finally, some notes on baud rates. The COLOR COMPUTER default baud rate is 600; that is, anytime it goes through the RESET cycle, it sets the printer baud rate at 600. This is controlled by the value in memory locations 995 and 976 (149 and 150). The baud rate can be set to other values as follows:

```

110 baud = 001F3 POKE 149,1;POKE 150,282
300 baud = 00084 POKE 149,0;POKE 150,188
600 baud = 40057 POKE 149,0;POKE 150,87
1200 baud = 40079 POKE 149,0;POKE 150,41
2400 baud = 40012 POKE 149,0;POKE 150,18

```

Since the MX-80 does not quite run up to 600 baud, I normally don't about setting it any different - with the 25 Buffer Serial Input Board, the computer will be back up before the printer is through printing. The R.S. Quick Printer II that I am running some will not quite take 600 baud; I had to POKE 156,93 to allow the computer output slightly to keep the printer from missing a character now and then.

I hope this hasn't been too long-winded and helps some of you get your printers on line and operating like they should. If any of you have solved problems with interfacing specific printers, drop me a line, or better yet, a "bit bucket" letter, and clue us in.

810-11

Next month, we'll be looking at The MICRO WORKS excellent products for the COLOR COMPUTER, SUPER "COLOR" WRITER from Nelson Software Systems, our first look at some of the DISK Systems becoming available, and a whatever else I feel may help you get better use of the COLOR COMPUTER. Once more, drop us a line and let us know what you like and dislike about the column; we'll stumble along blindly until we start getting some feedback from you.

Link Loader /09

Part 2

(The entry point of WRBNRC is after 4 bytes of link area) The load map published will probably have a different value for this entry point than the one on the distribution disk. Also, you will have to remove the CTR0 definition in the MODULE macro.

Once you assemble each hand-linked module, use the FLEX GET routine to load them into memory. **WARNING!** You may need to use some value for the link record identifiers other than \$FFFO-\$FFFF3, since GET will wipe out your DAT if you are using SWTPC equipment.

The major reason I am publishing this effort is my firm belief that the 6809 is one of the best micros around. It does suffer from a lack of available software, however, and anything which will allow the needed software to be more easily written will foster greater acceptance of the chip.

foster greater acceptance of the chip.

Therefore, I am giving RLOAD away, and I plan to do the same thing with other utility software I am currently working on. Anyone who wishes to do so may copy and distribute (with enhancements, I hope!) RLOAD without any royalties. Of course, I would like to be given credit for the original, but I'm not going to invest any effort in trying to enforce that.

For added convenience, I will provide machine-readable source and binary, including this article (formatted for TSC's PR processor), on a 5" single-density FLEX diskette for \$15.00. Additional copies of the floppy in the same order are \$4.00 each. (Limit 10, please) And hardcopy of the entire RLOAD program is \$5.00. Of course, if this copy of '68' is your own, you won't need the printed listings. Please do NOT send diskettes. This price includes the cost of the floppy, postage and packaging, and a little profit. At least, I hope not to LOSE any money, should more than four or five of you actually send for it.

If anyone out there is interested in starting a software exchange library or user's group similar to the excellent CP/M effort, let me know.

Since I am not (yet) really in the software business, updates to RLOAD may be a problem. For instance, I plan to add the SORT routine before I get any orders, but other features may come afterwards, and I don't want to have to charge a lot of money to update somebody's copy of RLOAD just because he bought it too soon, and I don't want to delay sending out the program because I'm in the process of adding another feature. The solution, I think, is to publish any new features in this magazine, and supply source listings of any new feature with self-addressed, stamped envelope, at 10 cents per page. Again, if you subscribe to '68', that should be enough. If you don't, you ought to. Since the subroutines tend to be short and modular, the effort in typing in one or two of them should not be too burdensome. After all, this is what a linking loader is all about!

I have been told that I am not charging enough. That may be true, and I may be headed for some hassle in that regard. However, I will guarantee the price quoted here for a least one month after the cover date of the issue in which this appears. After that, if it is necessary, I may raise the price. I hope not to.

Current plans also include adding 8" disks to my system, so I may be able to furnish this program on 8" disks in a couple of months.

Address inquiries/orders to WORD's WORTH,
PO Box 28954, Dallas, Texas 75228. Please
include your actual home or business address,
not a PO box, so that I can use UPS for
out-of-state orders. As if you didn't
already know, FLEX is a trademark of
Technical Systems Consultants.

6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
ASPRO AUTHOR: HL MARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

```

***** MODULE 'ABSPRO' - BLOAD VERS 2.0 *****

* PROCESS ABS RECORD. SIMILAR TO ENT RECORD, EXCEPT NOT
* NECESSARY TO RELOCATE.
* INPUTS - RY POINTS TO THE BYTCOUNT OF A BINARY RECORD
* IN A BUFFER (NOT IN THE FCB BUFFER)
* OUTPUTS- RY=TRASH, RX PRESERVED

0002          ENT    ABSPRO
0003          EXT    ENTER   MAKE TABLE ENTRY
0002          EXT    SEARCH  SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0004          EXT    SYMEND ADDRESS OF WORD CONTAINING
*           *          CURRENT EDT
0006          EXT    SYMTAB TABLE ADDRESS
0008          EXT    ZCOPY   SPECIAL COPY ROUTINE
000A          EXT    MEMEND END OF MEMORY (FLEX)
000C          EXT    PORL    (FLEX)
000D          EXT    OUTHEX (FLEX)
0010          EXT    PSTRNG (FLEX)

*           *          ADDFLD EQU 6      ADDRESS FIELD OF ENTRY IN TABLE
0012 36 10    0012 ABSPRO EQU *
*           *          PSHU X
*           *          SKIP THE BYTE COUNT (WE DON'T NEED IT)
0016 31 21    *FAT 1,0

```



```

0061 AD 9C AB    EXIT EQU * [PCLLF,PCR]
0062 38 8D 0033 LEAX TMPLT,PCR
0063 38 06 ADDFLD,X SPACE OVER TO ADDRESS FIELD
0064 AD 9C A1 JSR [OUTHEX,PCR]
0065 AD 81 LEAX 1,X
0066 AD 9C JSR [OUTHEX,PCR]
0067 86 84 LEA #EOS
0068 AD 86 STA ADDFLD,X
0069 86 8D 0018 LEAD,PCR
0070 AD 9C 8F JSR [PSTRING,PCR]
0071 86 84 LEA #EOS
0072 38 8D 0025 LEAN TMPLT,PCR
0073 86 84 LEA #EOS
0074 38 8D 0018 LEAD,PCR
0075 AD 9C 8F JSR [PSTRING,PCR]
0076 86 84 LEA #EOS
0077 86 84 LEA #EOS
0078 AD 9C 8F JSR [PSTRING,PCR]
0079 86 84 LEA #EOS
0080 86 84 LEA #EOS
0081 AE 8D 0012 ERRXIT EDU * RESTORE RX
0082 86 84 RTS MBASE,PCR
0083 39

```

```

0086 CC 0000 LDD #0
0087 38 8D 000E LEAX TMPLT,PCR
0088 ED 86 STD ADDFLD,X
0089 AD 9D FF7D JSR [PSTRING,PCR]
0090 86 82 LEAD,PCR
0091 20 EA JERR
0092 86 84 LEA #EOS
0093 20 28 MBASE LEAD,PCR
0094 86 84 LEAD,PCR
0095 20 28 TMPLT RMB 8 EIGHT-WORD TABLE ENTRY TEMPLATE
0096 20 44 55 50 ERMSG FCC DUPLICATE ENTRY POINT DEFINITION',EOS
0097 4C 49 43 41
0098 4C 45 28 45
0099 4E 52 52 59
0100 4E 58 49 4F
0101 4E 58 49 4F
0102 4E 58 49 4F
0103 4E 58 49 4F
0104 4E 58 49 4F
0105 4E 04

```

0095 ENMOD

ENTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

END

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

ENTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

```

ABSORG FFF3 ADDFLD 0006 CINIT 0055 COMM, 002C CR 0000 CTR0 000A
CTR0 0012 END 0005 ENTER 0000 ENTORG FFF2 ENTPRO 0000
ED 0008 EOS 0004 ED 0085 ERR 0082 EXIT 0048 EXTORG FFF1 FOUND 0083
ERROR 0086 ERRXIT 0081 EXIT 0081 EXTORG FFF1 FOUND 0083
GT 0086 MODORG FFF0 NO 0084 OK 0081 OUTHEX 0001
MEMEND 008A MODORG FFF0 NO 0084 OK 0081 OUTHEX 0001
PCLLF 000C PSTRING 0018 RSTX 0002 RTX 0016 SEARCH 0002
SPACE 0020 SYMEN 0004 SYMTAB 0006 TMPLT 0098 UNDEF FFFF
YES 0085 ZCOPY 0008

```

EXTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

0000

MODULE 'EXTPRO' - LOAD VERS 2.0

- PROCESS EXT RECORD,
- INPUTS - RY POINTS TO THE BYTE COUNT OF A LOGICAL BINARY RECORD,
- OUTPUTS- RX=TRASH, RX PRESERVED

```

0000 ENT EXTPRO
0001 EXI ENTER MAKE TABLE ENTRY
0002 EXT SEARCH SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0003 EXT SYMEND ADDRESS OF WORD CONTAINING EOT
0004 EXT SYMTAB TABLE ADDRESS
0005 EXT ZCOPY SPECIAL COPY ROUTINE
0006
0007 EXT MEMEND
0008
0009 1B 000C EXTPRO EQU *
0010 31 21 PSHU X
0011 38 8D 0037 * SKIP THE BYTE COUNT (WE DON'T NEED IT)
0012 38 80 LEAY TMPLT,PCR
0013 38 06 RMB #0 NUMBER OF BYTES TO COPY (MAX)
0014 C6 06 JSR [ZCOPY,PCR]
0015 AD 9C STD .X
0016 AE 84 LEAD,PCR
0017 CC FFFF STD #UNDEF
0018 ED 84 STD .X
0019 AE 8C E5 * SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0020 31 80 0026 LOX SVRTAB,PCR
0021 31 80 0026 LEAY TMPLT,PCR
0022 EC 9C DC LOX [SYMEND,PCR]
0023 AD 9E 07 JSR [SEARCH,PCR]
0024 81 85 YES
0025 27 19 EXIT ALREADY IN THERE
0026 C6 08 LOB #B
0027 36 04 LSH #B
0028 31 80 0014 LEAY TMPLT,PCR
0029 AE 9C 0C LOX [MEMEND,PCR]
0030 36 38 PSHU Y,X
0031 18 8C C4 LOY SYMEND,PCR
0032 AE 8C C3 LOX SVRTAB,PCR
0033 36 38 PSHU Y,X
0034 36 38 PSHU Y,X
0035 AD 9C B8 EXIT EDU [ENTER,PCR]
0036 38 10 0048 RMB #0
0037 39 10 RILU X
0038
0039
0040 1B 000B TMPLT RMB 8 EIGHT-WORD TABLE ENTRY TEMPLATE
0041 ENMOD
0042 FFI

```

EXTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

EXTPRO 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

```

ABSORG FFF3 COMM, 002C CR 0000 CTR0 000C END 0053
ENTER 0000 ENTORG FFF2 EOF 0008 EOS 0004 EQ 0085
ERR 0082 EXIT 0048 EXTORG FFF1 FOUND 0083
GT 0086 MODORG FFF0 NO 0084 OK 0081 RTX 0016 SEARCH 0002
NO 0084 OK 0081 RSTX 0002 RTX 0016 SEARCH 0002
SPACE 0020 SYMEN 0004 SYMTAB 0006 TMPLT 0048 UNDEF FFFF
YES 0085 ZCOPY 0008

```

EXT2 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

0000

MODULE 'EXT2' - LOAD VERS 2.0

- PROCESS EXT RECORD,
- INPUTS - RY POINTS TO THE BYTE COUNT OF A LOGICAL BINARY RECORD,
- OUTPUTS- RX=B,T=TRASH, RX PRESERVED

```

0000 ENT EXT2
0001 EXT ROBNRC READ BINARY RECORD
0002 EXT SEARCH SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0003 EXT SYMEND ADDRESS OF WORD CONTAINING EOT
0004 EXT SYMTAB TABLE ADDRESS
0005 EXT ZCOPY SPECIAL COPY ROUTINE
0006 ADDFLD DATA EQU 6
0007 0006 STD DATA EQU 4
0008
0009 30 EXT2 EQU *
0010 30 PSHU X,Y
0011 31 21 * SKIP THE BYTE COUNT (WE DON'T NEED IT)
0012 30 LEAY TMPLT,PCR
0013 38 06 RMB #0 NUMBER OF BYTES TO COPY (MAX)
0014 AD 9C F1 JSR [ZCOPY,PCR]
0015 31 80 001F * SEARCH TABLE FOR ENTRY
0016 EC 9C JSR [SYMEND,PCR]
0017 AD 9C 0E JSR [SEARCH,PCR]
0018 24 BD 0010 * READ THE NEXT RECORD INTO THE ORIGINAL BUFFER,
0019 1B 000E AND STUFF THE ENTRY POINT ADDRESS INTO IT.
0020 31 3D LDY 2,U BACK TO START OF RECORD
0021 30 LEAY 0,U
0022 002F AD 9C CE JSR [ROBNRC,PCR]
0023 32 80 000F LOX ENTADD,PCR
0024 EC 06 ADDFLD,X
0025 31 24 LOO DATA,Y
0026 ED 000D STD *
0027 30 003A EXIT EQU *
0028 003A 37 30 PULU X,Y
0029 0039 RTS
0030 1B 000E TMPLT RMB 8 EIGHT-WORD TABLE ENTRY TEMPLATE
0031 30 000D ENTADD RMB 2 PLACE TO SAVE TABLE P, INTER
0032 0045 ENMOD
0033 0046 END

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

EXT2 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

```

ABSORG FFF3 ADDFLD 0006 COMM, 002C CR 0000 CTR0 000A
DATA 0004 END 0007 ENTADD 0045 ENTORG FFF2 EOF 0008
EOS 0004 0005 ERR 0082 EXIT 003A EXT2 000A
EXTORG FFF1 FOUND 0083 GT 0086 MODORG FFF0 NO 0084 ROBNRC 0000 RSTX 0002
MODORG FFF0 NO 0084 OK 0081 RTX 0016 SEARCH 0002
RTRX 0016 SEARCH 0002 SPACE 0020 SYMEN 0004 SYMTAB 0006
TMPLT 003D UNDEF FFFF YES 0085 ZCOPY 0008

```

GETNAM 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

0000

MODULE 'GETNAM' - LOAD VERS 2.8

- GET A FILE NAME FROM THE LINK FILE,
- INPUT RX=LINK FILE FCB
- OUTPUT RX=BINARY FILE FCB (OPEN)

```

0000 ENT GETNAM
0001 EXT FMS
0002 EXT PSTRNG
0003 EXT RPTRR
0004 EXT SETEXT
0005 EXT RDFCB
0006
0007
0008
0009 1B 000A GETNAM EQU *
0010 31 8C FA LDY 000A RDFCB,PCR
0011 38 06 00 00 LDA #0
0012 38 06 C6 40 *#$40 WIPE OUT FIRST 64 BYTES OF FCB
0013 31 24 A7 A0 WIPE STA ,Y+
0014 5A 5A 00 00 LDY 000A RDFCB,PCR
0015 26 FB BNE WIPE
0016 1B 000E 8C ED LDY 000A RDFCB,PCR
0017 31 24 LEAY FNAME,Y POINTS TO NAME FIELD
0018 31 24 B6 00 00 * GET NEXT NAME FROM LINK FILE, FIRST, SKIP OVER LEADING
0019 31 24 BLANKS, COMMAS, & CARRIAGE RETURNS
0020 31 24 00 00 GET1 EQU [FMS,PCR]
0021 31 24 00 00 BNE CANT
0022 31 24 00 00 CMA ACB
0023 31 24 00 00 REQ GET1
0024 31 24 00 00 CMPA $SPACE
0025 31 24 00 00 GET1
0026 31 24 00 00 CMPA GET1
0027 31 24 00 00 GET1
0028 31 24 00 00 CMPA GET1
0029 31 24 00 00 GET1
0030 31 24 00 00 GET1
0031 31 24 00 00 GET1
0032 31 24 00 00 GET1
0033 31 24 00 00 GET1
0034 31 24 00 00 GET1
0035 31 24 00 00 GET1
0036 31 24 00 00 GET1
0037 31 24 00 00 GET1
0038 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0040 31 24 00 00 GET1
0041 31 24 00 00 GET1
0042 31 24 00 00 GET1
0043 31 24 00 00 GET1
0044 31 24 00 00 GET1
0045 31 24 00 00 GET1
0046 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0050 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0055 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0057 31 24 00 00 GET1
0058 31 24 00 00 GET1
0059 31 24 00 00 GET1
0060 31 24 00 00 GET1
0061 31 24 00 00 GET1
0062 31 24 00 00 GET1
0063 31 24 00 00 GET1
0064 31 24 00 00 GET1
0065 31 24 00 00 GET1
0066 31 24 00 00 GET1
0067 31 24 00 00 GET1
0068 31 24 00 00 GET1
0069 31 24 00 00 GET1
0070 31 24 00 00 GET1
0071 31 24 00 00 GET1
0072 31 24 00 00 GET1
0073 31 24 00 00 GET1
0074 31 24 00 00 GET1
0075 31 24 00 00 GET1
0076 31 24 00 00 GET1
0077 31 24 00 00 GET1
0078 31 24 00 00 GET1
0079 31 24 00 00 GET1
0080 31 24 00 00 GET1
0081 31 24 00 00 GET1
0082 31 24 00 00 GET1
0083 31 24 00 00 GET1
0084 31 24 00 00 GET1
0085 31 24 00 00 GET1
0086 31 24 00 00 GET1
0087 31 24 00 00 GET1
0088 31 24 00 00 GET1
0089 31 24 00 00 GET1
0090 31 24 00 00 GET1
0091 31 24 00 00 GET1
0092 31 24 00 00 GET1
0093 31 24 00 00 GET1
0094 31 24 00 00 GET1
0095 31 24 00 00 GET1
0096 31 24 00 00 GET1
0097 31 24 00 00 GET1
0098 31 24 00 00 GET1
0099 31 24 00 00 GET1
0100 31 24 00 00 GET1
0101 31 24 00 00 GET1
0102 31 24 00 00 GET1
0103 31 24 00 00 GET1
0104 31 24 00 00 GET1
0105 31 24 00 00 GET1
0106 31 24 00 00 GET1
0107 31 24 00 00 GET1
0108 31 24 00 00 GET1
0109 31 24 00 00 GET1
0110 31 24 00 00 GET1
0111 31 24 00 00 GET1
0112 31 24 00 00 GET1
0113 31 24 00 00 GET1
0114 31 24 00 00 GET1
0115 31 24 00 00 GET1
0116 31 24 00 00 GET1
0117 31 24 00 00 GET1
0118 31 24 00 00 GET1
0119 31 24 00 00 GET1
0120 31 24 00 00 GET1
0121 31 24 00 00 GET1
0122 31 24 00 00 GET1
0123 31 24 00 00 GET1
0124 31 24 00 00 GET1
0125 31 24 00 00 GET1
0126 31 24 00 00 GET1
0127 31 24 00 00 GET1
0128 31 24 00 00 GET1
0129 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0131 31 24 00 00 GET1
0132 31 24 00 00 GET1
0133 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0180 31 24 00 00 GET1
0181 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0186 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0189 31 24 00 00 GET1
0190 31 24 00 00 GET1
0191 31 24 00 00 GET1
0192 31 24 00 00 GET1
0193 31 24 00 00 GET1
0194 31 24 00 00 GET1
0195 31 24 00 00 GET1
0196 31 24 00 00 GET1
0197 31 24 00 00 GET1
0198 31 24 00 00 GET1
0199 31 24 00 00 GET1
0200 31 24 00 00 GET1
0201 31 24 00 00 GET1
0202 31 24 00 00 GET1
0203 31 24 00 00 GET1
0204 31 24 00 00 GET1
0205 31 24 00 00 GET1
0206 31 24 00 00 GET1
0207 31 24 00 00 GET1
0208 31 24 00 00 GET1
0209 31 24 00 00 GET1
0210 31 24 00 00 GET1
0211 31 24 00 00 GET1
0212 31 24 00 00 GET1
0213 31 24 00 00 GET1
0214 31 24 00 00 GET1
0215 31 24 00 00 GET1
0216 31 24 00 00 GET1
0217 31 24 00 00 GET1
0218 31 24 00 00 GET1
0219 31 24 00 00 GET1
0220 31 24 00 00 GET1
0221 31 24 00 00 GET1
0222 31 24 00 00 GET1
0223 31 24 00 00 GET1
0224 31 24 00 00 GET1
0225 31 24 00 00 GET1
0226 31 24 00 00 GET1
0227 31 24 00 00 GET1
0228 31 24 00 00 GET1
0229 31 24 00 00 GET1
0230 31 24 00 00 GET1
0231 31 24 00 00 GET1
0232 31 24 00 00 GET1
0233 31 24 00 00 GET1
0234 31 24 00 00 GET1
0235 31 24 00 00 GET1
0236 31 24 00 00 GET1
0237 31 24 00 00 GET1
0238 31 24 00 00 GET1
0239 31 24 00 00 GET1
0240 31 24 00 00 GET1
0241 31 24 00 00 GET1
0242 31 24 00 00 GET1
0243 31 24 00 00 GET1
0244 31 24 00 00 GET1
0245 31 24 00 00 GET1
0246 31 24 00 00 GET1
0247 31 24 00 00 GET1
0248 31 24 00 00 GET1
0249 31 24 00 00 GET1
0250 31 24 00 00 GET1
0251 31 24 00 00 GET1
0252 31 24 00 00 GET1
0253 31 24 00 00 GET1
0254 31 24 00 00 GET1
0255 31 24 00 00 GET1
0256 31 24 00 00 GET1
0257 31 24 00 00 GET1
0258 31 24 00 00 GET1
0259 31 24 00 00 GET1
0260 31 24 00 00 GET1
0261 31 24 00 00 GET1
0262 31 24 00 00 GET1
0263 31 24 00 00 GET1
0264 31 24 00 00 GET1
0265 31 24 00 00 GET1
0266 31 24 00 00 GET1
0267 31 24 00 00 GET1
0268 31 24 00 00 GET1
0269 31 24 00 00 GET1
0270 31 24 00 00 GET1
0271 31 24 00 00 GET1
0272 31 24 00 00 GET1
0273 31 24 00 00 GET1
0274 31 24 00 00 GET1
0275 31 24 00 00 GET1
0276 31 24 00 00 GET1
0277 31 24 00 00 GET1
0278 31 24 00 00 GET1
0279 31 24 00 00 GET1
0280 31 24 00 00 GET1
0281 31 24 00 00 GET1
0282 31 24 00 00 GET1
0283 31 24 00 00 GET1
0284 31 24 00 00 GET1
0285 31 24 00 00 GET1
0286 31 24 00 00 GET1
0287 31 24 00 00 GET1
0288 31 24 00 00 GET1
0289 31 24 00 00 GET1
0290 31 24 00 00 GET1
0291 31 24 00 00 GET1
0292 31 24 00 00 GET1
0293 31 24 00 00 GET1
0294 31 24 00 00 GET1
0295 31 24 00 00 GET1
0296 31 24 00 00 GET1
0297 31 24 00 00 GET1
0298 31 24 00 00 GET1
0299 31 24 00 00 GET1
0300 31 24 00 00 GET1
0301 31 24 00 00 GET1
0302 31 24 00 00 GET1
0303 31 24 00 00 GET1
0304 31 24 00 00 GET1
0305 31 24 00 00 GET1
0306 31 24 00 00 GET1
0307 31 24 00 00 GET1
0308 31 24 00 00 GET1
0309 31 24 00 00 GET1
0310 31 24 00 00 GET1
0311 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0314 31 24 00 00 GET1
0315 31 24 00 00 GET1
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0318 31 24 00 00 GET1
0319 31 24 00 00 GET1
0320 31 24 00 00 GET1
0321 31 24 00 00 GET1
0322 31 24 00 00 GET1
0323 31 24 00 00 GET1
0324 31 24 00 00 GET1
0325 31 24 00 00 GET1
0326 31 24 00 00 GET1
0327 31 24 00 00 GET1
0328 31 24 00 00 GET1
0329 31 24 00 00 GET1
0330 31 24 00 00 GET1
0331 31 24 00 00 GET1
0332 31 24 00 00 GET1
0333 31 24 00 00 GET1
0334 31 24 00 00 GET1
0335 31 24 00 00 GET1
0336 31 24 00 00 GET1
0337 31 24 00 00 GET1
0338 31 24 00 00 GET1
0339 31 24 00 00 GET1
0340 31 24 00 00 GET1
0341 31 24 00 00 GET1
0342 31 24 00 00 GET1
0343 31 24 00 00 GET1
0344 31 24 00 00 GET1
0345 31 24 00 00 GET1
0346 31 24 00 00 GET1
0347 31 24 00 00 GET1
0348 31 24 00 00 GET1
0349 31 24 00 00 GET1
0350 31 24 00 00 GET1
0351 31 24 00 00 GET1
0352 31 24 00 00 GET1
0353 31 24 00 00 GET1
0354 31 24 00 00 GET1
0355 31 24 00 00 GET1
0356 31 24 00 00 GET1
0357 31 24 00 00 GET1
0358 31 24 00 00 GET1
0359 31 24 00 00 GET1
0360 31 24 00 00 GET1
0361 31 24 00 00 GET1
0362 31 24 00 00 GET1
0363 31 24 00 00 GET1
0364 31 24 00 00 GET1
0365 31 24 00 00 GET1
0366 31 24 00 00 GET1
0367 31 24 00 00 GET1
0368 31 24 00 00 GET1
0369 31 24 00 00 GET1
0370 31 24 00 00 GET1
0371 31 24 00 00 GET1
0372 31 24 00
```

```

003C AD 9C C1      JSR  [FNS.PCR]
003F 26 EB          BNE  CAN1
0041 20           BNE  E2Y2
0043 AE 0043 GETKIT  LDX  R0FCB.PCR
0046 4F           CLR  A
0047 AD 9C BC      JSR  [SETEXT.PCR] BINARY FILE
004A 86 01          LDA  #OPEN
GETNAM 6-13-81 TSC ASSEMBLER
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

004C A7 84          STA  FUNCTN.X
004E 86 81          LDA  #1
0050 A7 83          STA  DRIVE.X
0052 AD 9C AB      JSR  [FNS.PCR]
0055 26 08          BNE  CAN1
0057 86 FF          LDA  #BNREAD
0059 A7 88 38      STA  COMPRFL.X
005C 86 81          LDA  #OK
005E 39 005E EXIT   EQU  *
005F *              RTS  *
005F A6 81          EQU  *
0061 81 00          LDA  ERRSTAT.X
0063 27 F9          CMPA #EOF
0065 55 10          BEQ  EXIT
0067 38 80 000C      LEAX  MNAME,PCR
006B 86 9C 94      JSR  [PSTRING.PCR]
006E 37 18          PULU X
0070 AD 9C 91      JSR  [RPTERR.PCR]
0073 86 82          LDA  #ERR
0075 20 E7          BRA  EXIT
0077 47 45 54 4E    MNAME  FCC  'GETNAM WAS UNABLE '
0078 41 40 28 57
007F 41 53 28 55
0083 4E 41 42 4C
0088 25 28
0089 25 28 4F
008D 26 45 4E 20
0091 25 49 4E 41
0095 25 59 28 46
0099 49 4C 45 84
009D ENDMOO
END

B ERROR(S) DETECTED

```

GETNAM
AUTHOR: HL HARKNESS, PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, 1981.

SYMBOL TABLE:

ABSORG	FFF3	BNREAD	00FF	CANT	005F	COMMA	002C	COMPWF	003B
CR	0080	CTR8	000A	DRIVE	0003	END	0090	ENTORG	FFF2
EOF	0008	EOFFLA	0008	EOS	0004	EQ	0085	FPR	0015
ERRSTA	0001	EXIT	005E	EXTORG	FFF1	FCLOSE	0004	FMS	0009
FNAME	0004	FOUND	0083	FUNCTN	0000	GET1	0010	GETZ	002E
GETNAM	000A	GETKIT	0043	GT	0086	LF	000A	LT	0087
MNAME	0077	MDDORG	FFF0	NO	0084	OK	0081	POSIN	0015
PSTORG	0002	PURGE	000C	RDFCB	0008	RENAME	0000	REWIND	0005
ROPEN	0001	RPTERR	0004	RSTX	0002	RTRX	0016	SETEXT	0006
SPACE	0020	UNDEF	FFFF	UPDATE	0003	WIPE	0012	WOPEN	0002
YES	0085								

To be continued...

WAVE MATE 2000

Despite a host of new 6809 computers being introduced for the past few years, a new version using an old favorite the MC6800, has started to take hold. Introduced by WAVE MATE, an old established microcomputer manufacturer, the Series 2000 proves that old is not the same as obsolete. The 2000 is a solid 2 mhz, dual density, dual disk 5" single cabinet microcomputer system. Available also with 5 and 8 inch external disk systems and a winchester for the heavy user. Which indicates that the 6800 is still 'one fine CPU'.

The specifications are quite impressive and our unit has performed flawlessly for over six months. They are as follows: Temperature range 50-90 degrees fahrenheit (10-35 celsius) with a maximum relative humidity rating of 80% (non-condensing). The 2000 is 13" high, 17" wide, 20" deep and weighs in at 44 pounds. The finish is grey and off white. CPU 68800, 2mhz clock, programmable interrupt and on board real time clock. Internal memory 64K of RAM with hidden refresh and 1K Boot ROM and diagnostics. Disk storage is now external with either 40 or 80 track double sided drives. 40 track disk subsystem is 184,320 bytes per disk capacity. 80 track capacity is 368,640 bytes per disk. With the 80 track system the total 'on line' capacity is 1,474,560 bytes. Access time is 12 ms track to track, 270 ms average random access. Two drives standard, however a maximum of four 5" drives may be used.

Video display 12 inches diagonal, P4 phosphor. Format is 24 line by 80 characters with a 25th line programmable. A full 95 character displayable ASCII set, plus 33 graphic symbols. Display mode either normal or reverse. Character type is Upper Case 5x7 dot matrix, Lower Case 5x9 dot matrix with true descenders. Graphics 8x10 dot matrix. Cursor shape block or underline, blinking. Cursor controls, up, down, left, right and home. Cursor addressing either relative or absolute.

The keyboard is a standard commercial typewriter keyboard. Alphanumeric 60 keys, special functions 8 (user programmable) and 12 normal function keys. Numeric pad is 12 key numeric, cursor control, editing and user programmable function. Some very nice 'Special Features' are system reset key, ESC sequences, control key, keyboard lock/unlock from host processor and break key.

I/O 2 serial RS232C ports, software selectable rates 110,300,1200,2400,4800 and 9600 baud. Expansion ports available, three slots. Winchester disk optional, 11 megabytes. For those needing additional I/O there is available a wire wrapping prototype board, with connectors, retail is \$35.00.

The cabinet is of structural foam (Zenith) with removable top. The three circuit boards are, 1) CPU, memory, disk controller and I/O. 2) Video logic board (Zenith). 3) Video display board (Zenith).

Power requirements, 100/220 VAC, 50/60 hz, 90 watts.

SOFTWARE

The 2000 has four (4) operating systems, FLEX[®], Software Dynamics SOOS[®] and the Wave Mate real time disk operating system, MTS-6800[®] Multi-Tasking OS. TFORTH has been accomplished for this system by Dr. Ray Talbot. Also a complete package of UCSD PASCAL.

On initial power the system accomplishes a memory test and then the disk is automatically booted. Also during power on the video board and other internal systems are tested. If a defect is detected the system displays a message that helps locate the defective part. This can save a lot of grief later, especially if something has turned sour internally and we do not find out until after we try to save a couple of hours of data file editing. It is always nice to know beforehand, sometime even vital.

The system monitor incorporates a 'DEBUG' mode. These consist of a hex memory examine and change routine, a GOTO jump routine, G command for a reboot and defined jump vectors as follows: Bootstrap loader, Init console hardware, output ACC-A data to console, Input console data to ACC-A, test for char available at console, test for escape char at console, Init port 1 and output ACC-A data to port 1 (aux or host device.).

SERIAL PORTS

Port 1 is configured as a DCE port (Data communications equipment). Port 2 is configured as a DTE port (Data terminal equipment). Computers and MODEMS qualify as DCE types and most other peripherals are of the DTE type. Therefore in general the number 1 port would be a printer port and the number 2 port a MODEM port. The system comes with both these ports wired and ready for your standard I/O needs. Full documentation is included for these two additionally supplied ports.

INTERNAL HARDWARE DEVICES

The internal devices are composed of the following special LSI devices, Disk controller

FD1793-B02 (Western Digital), MC6850 (3) (Motorola), SY6522 Disk and baud rate select (Synertek). The SY6522 has its capability divided into 4 areas, serial port baud rate select and control, floppy disk unit select and control, software clock using internal timer and other unused functions available at the I/O expansion interface.

Three I/O expansion slots are available on the series 2000 CPU board for interfacing modules to the I/O bus. They consist of 10 and 25 pin connectors.

On a 64K system the memory map is defined as:

FFFF	ROM
FC80	I/O PORTS
FC00	Unpopulated If less than 64K
xFF	System Page
xx00	MTS-6800 RAM determined by system as to size
NODE POOL RAM default two pages	
zzFF	USER TOP RAM
0100-00FE	SYSTEM PAGE POINTER
0000-00FD	USER PAGE ZERO

DOCUMENTATION

The system comes with very complete documentation. For each of the operating systems a separate manual is included. Technical diagrams and other data are available and includes the very complete Zenith operator and maintenance manuals for the video and power supply portions.

OPERATION

We have been using the series 2000 for some months now. With the exception of an IC failure (Zenith) the first day, we have experienced no failures, glitches or sub-par operation. The quality of the boards (socketed) and components is excellent and should prove to be very dependable.

The disks have performed flawlessly. However, there is one temporary disadvantage that bears mention. The early production models of the series 2000 have the disk directory written in double density format. This is a hardware design feature. The standard for the Standard S50 Bus has been a single density directory for both formats. This permits a single or double density system to access the directory. Therefore a double density system could also read and write single density. However, a single density system can not read or write a double density disk. By being double density in the directory it does preclude the transportation of disks between the series 2000 and most other 6800 systems, especially those on the Standard S50 Bus. Transportation between series 2000 computers is completely functional. However, this problem has and does exist between other Standard S50 Bus disk systems but not for this particular reason.

Wave Mate has informed us that they will change this in future production models of the series 2000. For those of us having the original double density

directory format a factory modification is promised. The price is estimated to be between \$25.00 and \$50.00 when available.

The video is crisp and sharp with no smearing or other distortions. The relative small size of the entire system makes it very convenient for moving from desk to desk. Having the wide choice of software allows a very complete development and applications system.

CONCLUSION

We have found that all the tasks we have assigned to the Wave Mate series 2000 have been accomplished without any glitches. The quality is first class and the entire machine packs a lot of power into a compact package. Considering the depth of software available for the 6800 this machine should fill an useful and economical position in the 68XX picture. The FLEX® Disk Operating System was modified for this system by Great Plains Computer Company, Inc. (see ad this issue) and they are developing software for this system on a continuing basis. The SDOS® system by Software Dynamics allows the system a large library of applications software. This includes the Software Dynamics BASIC compiler system and text editing systems, as well as all other Software Dynamics time proven applications and other software packages. With the policy of Software Dynamics not to obsolete their applications and development packages, upgrades and conversions from 6800 to 6809, means long term usage. UCSD PASCAL® opens the door for many new applications being currently developed. For those who like to work close to the internal functions of the system the MTS-6800® real-time disk system is a natural.

Prices start at \$3195.00 and for a full 64K system as reviewed with UCSD PASCAL \$3450.00. Additional information can be obtained from:

Wave Mate Inc, 14009 S. Crenshaw Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250, (213) 978-8600, Telex 194369.

In Europe: Wave Mate International, 159 CH de Vleurgat, 1050 Brussels, BELGIUM, (02) 649-1070, Telex 24050.

BIT Bucket

LOCKHEED-CALIFORNIA COMPANY

A DIVISION OF LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT CORPORATION
BURBANK, CALIFORNIA 91500

LETTERS

'68' Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Rd.
P.O. Box 849
Knox, Tennessee 37343

Gentlemen:

We have a SWTPC DMAF-1 disk drive which we need to use with the SWTPC 809 computer, running at 1 Mhz. SWTPC has no information on such a conversion. The ideal solution would be a second control board so we could keep the present controller in our 6800 computer.

Perhaps some of your readers or advertisers could be of help.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

LOCKHEED-CALIFORNIA CO.

Main E. Wolfe

MLP Testing Engineer
Test Services Laboratory
Dept. 57-16, Bldg. 100 Pt. B-1

68 MICRO JOURNAL DISK PROGRAMS

DISK - 1: FILESORT, MINICAT, MINICOPY, MINIFMS, LIFETIME.BAS, POETRY.BAS, DIET.BAS, FOODLIST.BAS

DISK - 2: DISKEDIT, PRIME, PRMOD, SNOOPPY.BAS, FOOTBALL.BAS, HEXPAWN.BAS, LIFETIME.BAS, SPACEWAR.BAS, INSTR, DISKEDIT.REP (patches to DISKEDIT)

DISK - 3: CBUG09, SEC1, SEC2, FIND, TABLE2, NOTE, INTEXT, DISK-EXP, DISKSAVE

NOTE: All programs are as published by 68 Micro Journal with some additions or patches (if received).

This is a "READER SERVICE" only! It is made available in order to eliminate input and debugging time by 68 MICRO JOURNAL readers. No WARRANTY is given or implied for the code or program action. Please remember they are as received and published.

PRICE: 8" DISK - \$19.95 5" DISK - \$17.95

South East Media
POB 794
Chattanooga, TN 37443
615-877-2241

MASTER CARD - VISA Accepted - Foreign add sufficient postage for surface or air.

some other 6809 programmers could do, but they work. As it was, this mod was my first attempt at interfacing with the FLEX "FMS" in assembler. I also added a parallel printer driver to the package, so that the printer can be driven directly from a Pascal applications program via the SETP(3) command.

The files break down as follows:

1) DMOD3.PAS This is the assembler patch to change the Pascal from cassette to disk and add in a printer driver.

2) LIFE.TXT This is a Pascal program for the game of life. It is written to drive a Heathkit H-19 terminal, and would have to be modified to run anything else.

3) CRYPTO.TXT A "formatter" for cryptoquote addicts such as myself. It has no intelligence, that would detract from my fun. Rather it makes it much easier to do letter substitutions. Again, it is written for an H-19.

In general, I have found DYNASOFT products VERY well made and documented. Al Jost has always been most cordial in conversation. I have had three versions of the Pascal. One for the 6800, and two for the 6809. In two cases I found a bug, but they were cleared up immediately. The latest version (1.3) is a real joy to use. For what has been implemented (of Pascal) I would rate the product AAA. You may publish any of or all of the programs contained on this disk. In fact, if you have a diskette copy service there, it may be convenient to offer the patches file, but that's up to you.

I really enjoy 68-Micro and hope that I might have some more offerings. Some ideas that I am working on are some memory diagnostics and some utilities written in C. I just sent in an order for Dugger's C compiler. Once the compiler is up to snuff (version 3) I rather suspect that I will be doing ALL my programming in C. I might even be so bold as to predict that with a year or two, most utilities submitted to 68-Micro will be written in the C language. I have looked at the big Pascals and also at Fourth... but C still looks like the best. Since I program in C at work, it will also be nice to use one language for both places.

My system is all homebrew, but is mapped to look like a FLEX system. It consists of a 6809 processor, 56K of memory, two 5.25 inch floppies and an MX-80 printer. I hope to add in a 9511 math processor fairly soon, and a few more I/O channels.

Norm Commo

Ed's Note: Due to the length (over 125 sectors) of the various patches and programs it is impractical, at this time, to run the listings of Norm's fine efforts. Therefore, we will make available, at the standard disk service price (see advertising about disk service this issue) of all of Norm's work.

Please allow 2 weeks for mailing out of these disk as they will have to be special handling.

DMW —

FORMAT

The attached program, which I call FORMAT, is designed to add printer output to TEC's cassette based TEST EDITOR. It should work also with the disk based Editor, but I suppose most who are using disk based systems would also have TEC's TEST PROCESSOR. This little program won't begin to approach the Processor's capability, but it does enable one to generate decent hardcopy with little more than the Editors, and it doesn't cost \$60.00. The cost of the Test Processor the last time I checked!

The TEC Test Editor costs only \$40.00. For this price you get the source code, object code, and a cassette for E. C. 826. Loading time I thought, I paid over \$100.00 for the object listing), but I guess that I "can't imagine any buyer, for the price, I can't imagine anyone willing to do without it."

I wrote the format program over a period of time. Initially, I didn't really write it, it just sort of grew. The original idea was to just get the editor to list output directly to a printer on a parallel port. Once that was accomplished, other enhancements followed. As it stands, Format gives one the opportunity to choose the number of characters per line, to decide whether the line is to be centered, or shifted to the right or to the left, and obtain right-justified margins (most of the time). I use the program with an Epson MX-80 printer, and so I also get the various special printing options (expanded, compressed, enhanced, etc.). I think the Epson provides

STAR-KITS

P.O. Box 208
MT. KISCO, NEW YORK 10549

NEW PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

MAGIC SPELL

Now your 6800 or 6809 system can proofread your text files for spelling and typographical errors in just minutes.

MAGIC SPELL (tm) compares each word in a text file against a master dictionary file, and displays or prints every word not found. The program is written in machine language and is extremely fast and compact - it will run in systems as small as 16K, and can proofread documents much larger than can be held in memory.

MAGIC SPELL (tm) is supplied with a core dictionary containing thousands of English words. The dictionary is easily modified by any text editor and can quickly be customized by the addition of technical terms or even names. Moreover, as new words are encountered in your text files, MAGIC SPELL (tm) can add them to your dictionary automatically.

MAGIC SPELL (tm) is now available in versions for Technical Systems Consultants' Miniflex, Flex 2, and Flex 9 disk operating systems, as well as for Percom disk systems, and costs \$69.29 with source code and dictionary on disk. OS-9 and BBS disk versions will be available soon.

For further information write for our catalog or call (914) 241-0287. If you call in the late evening, turn on your modes and LIST MAGIC.DAT.

INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL

To celebrate the introduction of this programming tool, we are offering it at the special price of \$59.29 until November 16th, 1981.

July 25, 1981

Dear Mr. Williams,

This disk contains all the files that were used in updating cassette based DYNASOFT Pascal, version 1.2 to FLEX. The mods may not be elegant compared to what

I've enclosed both an object dump of the program, and the source listing. I'd sure like improvements can be made, and not everyone still want ported located where I've put it. Hence the need for the source.

For a few comments about how the program works. It is written assuming a printer on a parallel interface on port 07. This shouldn't be too hard to change if your system is otherwise. The user enters the format preprint from the Editor by the command `PF`, patched into the Editor command set. When this command is processed, the printer is set up for double spaced lines, with a maximum of 80 characters per line. The program prompts for a formal code to specify the output form. The proper response is to a three digit input of the form "000". This is interpreted by the program as `Blanked out`, with all 0's in characters per line. I considered trying to convert a decimal input, but it doesn't worth the trouble at the time. Right later, Acceptable first characters inputs are C, L, and H. As long as the numerical input is less than 50, no 100 decial, any of the three form C, L or H are used. If a line length greater than 80 decimal is required much as when using the compressed printing mode, the B input is the only acceptable form, though possible improvement E. Immediately after the third character is input, printing begins. After printing is complete, the `PDF` command should be given. In order to make single line sections, enter the `PDF` command immediately before the `PF` command.

Printout of test directif from the Editor file can be obtained by entering the PCD or P20M command like the Editor command sequence "P>1" (80 of file, print to bottom of file). Listing B is a sample Printout of a test file prepared for Forest Printing. The line numbers can be deleted or deleted by the Editor commands, but I find it more convenient to edit the test using a word copy with line numbers. The file is basically the same as our test file, except that some special characters are required for control. These characters and their functions are summarized below:

Character running in forest
and at sunset
stop running to change forest
and at last

Other characters could easily be substituted for the ones I'm used, and in fact it was necessary for me to change temporarily to some other characters in order to prepare this article. Obviously, any attempt to use one of the control characters in a title would prevent the function, rather than result in the printing of the character.

Listing #1 is the list as it appears when output by the format program. The characters for size and control are user adjustable.

00010 NAM FORMAT
 00020
 00030 Program by Charlie Hoffmann
 00040 2403 Perry Lane
 00050 Alvin, Texas 77311
 00060 OPT D,NDS
 00070
 00080 0010 ORG \$0010
 00100
 00110 0010 0001 TEST1 RMB 1
 00120 0011 0001 TEST2 RMB 1
 00130 0012 0001 TEST3 RMB 1
 00140
 00150 0024 ORG \$0024
 00160
 00170 0024 0002 BOL RMB 2
 00180 0026 0002 EOL RMB 2
 00190 0028 0002 PTR2 RMB 2
 00200 002A 0001 LINES RMB 1
 00210 002B 0001 LENGTH RMB 1
 00220 002C 0002 OFFSET RMB 2
 00230 002E 0002 ENDPNT RMB 2
 00240 0030 0002 XTEMP1 RMB 2
 00250 0032 0001 ADJFLG RMB 1
 00260 0033 0001 ADJFL2 RMB 1
 00270
 00280 External Equates:
 00290
 00300 0097 FILBED EQU \$0097
 00310 0099 FILIND EQU \$0099
 00320 0058 SPCPT1 EQU \$0058
 00330 0054 SPCPT2 EQU \$0054
 00340 8000 BUFFEA EQU \$8000
 00350 B100 BUFF2 EQU \$B100
 00360
 00370 SMTBUG LOCATIONS:
 00380
 00390 E055 BYTE EQU \$E055
 00400 E07E PDATA1 EQU \$E07E
 00410 E1AC INEEE EQU \$E1AC
 00420
 00430 A200 ORG \$A200
 00440 A200 CE A31E INSTR LDX #TEXT\$1
 00450 A 03 BD E07E JSR PDATA1 PRINT INSTR ON CRT
 00460 A206 BD A2C4 JSR INPUT PICK UP FORMAT
 00470 A209 DE 97 LDX FILEBD
 00480 A20B DF 38 STX SPCPT1
 00490 A20D DE 99 LDX FILEND
 00500 A20F DF 3A STX SPCPT2
 00510 A 11 DE 8000 LDX #BUFFER TO SET INITIAL PT OF LINE
 00520 A214 DF 2E STX ENDPNT
 00530 A216 96 28 LDA A LENGTH
 00540 A216 98 2F ADD A ENDPNT+1
 00550 A21A 97 2F STA A ENDPNT+1
 00560 A21C 7F 002A CLR LINEB
 00570
 00580 A21F BD A2DA NEWLIN JSR PTEST
 00590
 00600 A222 DE 38 LDAD LDX SPCPT1 SPCPT1 HOLDS POS. IN FILE
 00610 A224 SF 1,0A02 CLR B
 00620 A225 A6 00 LDA A 0,X
 00630 A227 08 INX
 00640 A228 B1 0D CMP A \$00D IS IT A CARRIAGE RET?
 00650 A22A 26 10 ONE STD1
 00660 A22C 08 INX
 00670 A22D 08 INX
 00680 A22E 08 INX
 00690 A22F DF 38 STX SPCPT1
 00700 A231 20 F1 BRA 1,0A02
 00710
 00720 A233 80 A2C4 BREAK JSR INPUT
 00730 A236 88 80 ADD A \$880
 00740 A238 97 2F STA A ENDPNT+1
 00750 A23A 0 EB BRA 1,0A02
 00760
 00770 A 3C B1 7E \$101 CMP A ?'~ ^ For end of paragraph
 00780 A23E 27 5A BED ENDPAR
 00790 A23E 27 5A
 01150 A279 27 0B
 01160
 01170 A27B C1 20 CMP B \$020
 01180 A27D 26 A3 BNE LOAD
 01190 A27F DE 2C LDX OFFSET
 01200 A281 E7 00 STA B 0,X
 01210 A283 5F CLR B
 01220 A 4 20 EE BRA L,0B03
 0130 0130
 01240 A286 09 ADJUST DEX
 01250 A287 A6 00 LDA A 0,X
 01260 A289 B1 20 CMP A \$020 WAS IT A SPACE?
 01270 A28B 27 17 BEQ DONEA
 01280 A28D DF 2C STX OFF T
 01290 A28F DE 38 LDX SPCPT1
 01300 A291 09 DEX
 01310 A292 A7 00 STA A 0,X
 01320 A294 DF 58 STX SPCPT1
 01330 A296 DE 2C LDX OFFSET
 01340 A298 20 EC BRA ADJUST LOOP UNTIL A SPACE IS FOUND
 01350
 01360 A29A DF 58 ENOPAR STX SPCPT1
 01370 A29C 7F 0032 CLR ADJFLG
 01380 A29F 7F 0033 CLR ADJFL2
 01390 A2A2 DE 2C LDX OFFSET
 01400 A2A4 BD 29 DONEA BSR SLFCR
 01410 A2A6 7D 0032 TBT ADJFLG
 01420 A2A9 27 03 BEQ SKPADJ
 01430 A2AB BD A3B6 JSR RADJST
 01450 A2B0 7E A21F JMP NEWLIN
 01460
 01470 A2B3 DE 2C DONE LDX OFFSET
 01480 A2B5 B6 08 LDA A \$80A
 01490 A2B7 A7 00 STA A 0,X
 01500 A2B9 A7 01 STA A 1,X
 01510 A2B8 B6 0D LDA A \$800
 01520 A2B0 A7 02 STA A 2,X
 01530 A2Bf B6 4E BSR SPRINT
 01540 A2C1 7E 0203 JMP 00203 RETURN TO EDITOR
 01550
 01560 FOLLOWING SUBROUTINES USED BY FORMAT PROGRAM
 01570
 01580 A2D4 BD E1AC INPUT JSR INEEE
 01590 A2C7 97 11 STA A TEST2
 01600 A2C9 BD E055 JSR BYTE
 01610 A2CC 97 2B STA A LENGTH
 01620 A2CE 39 RTB
 01630
 01640 A2CF B6 08 SLFCR LDA A \$80A LINEFEED
 01650 A2D1 A7 00 STA A 0,X
 01660 A2D3 B6 00 LDA A \$80D CARRIAGE RETURN
 01670 A2D5 A7 01 STA A 1,X
 01680 A2D7 A7 02 STA A 2,X
 01690 A2D9 39 RTS
 01700
 01710 A2D4 B6 10 PTEST LDA B TEST1
 01720 A2D0 C1 01 CMP B \$801
 01730 A2D1 27 04 BEQ LINE1
 01740 A2E0 86 04 LDA A \$80A
 01750 A2E2 BD 61 BSR PRINTL
 01760 A2E3 96 11 LINE1 LDA A TEST2
 01770 ZE6 B1 52 CMP A ?'~
 01780 A2E7 27 02 BEQ CPRT
 01790 A 20 08 BRA CRTL
 01800 A2E2 CE \$8000 CPRTN LDX #BUFFER
 01810 A2EF DF 2C STX OFFSET
 01820 A2F1 B6 41 BSR CLRBUF
 01830 A2F3 7C 0032 INC ADJFLG
 01840 A2F6 39 R15
 01850
 01860 A2F7 C6 50 CURL I.DA B \$850 1,0D0 BD DEC.
 01870 A2F8 00 28 SUB B LENGTH BD-L = B
 01880 A2F9 27 EF BEQ CPRT
 01890 A 0 A2F8 B1 43 CMP A ?'~
 01900 A2FF 26 01 BNE CONTC
 01910 A301 37 ASR B
 01920 A302 86 20 CONTC LDA A \$820
 01930 A304 3A ISCLI DEC B

01940 A305 37 PSH B
 01950 A306 BD JD BSR PRINT1
 01960 A308 33 PUL B
 01970 A309 C1 00 CMP B #800
 01980 A30B 27 DF BEQ CPRT1
 01990 A30D 20 F5 BRA ISCLI
 02000
 0210 02020 A30F CE 8000 SPRINT LDX #BUFFER
 02030 A312 A6 00 LOOPS LDA A 0,X
 02040 A314 BD 2F BCR PRINT1
 02050 316 01 00 SKIPS CMP A #800
 02060 A318 27 03 BEQ SPOUT
 02070 A31A 08 INX
 02080 A31B 20 F5 BRA LOOPS
 02090 A31D 39 SPOUT RTS
 02100
 02110 A31E 10 TEXTS1 FCB \$10,\$16 HOME UP & CLEAR
 02120 A320 4C FCC
 02130 A331 0A FCB 0,X
 02140 A333 04 FCB 4
 02150
 02160 A334 36 CLRBUF PSH A
 02170 A335 37 PSH 0
 02180 A336 4F CLR A
 0219 A337 C6 50 LDA B #800
 02200 A339 A7 00 BSTORE STA A 0,X
 02210 A33B 08 INX
 02220 A33C 5A DEC B
 02230 A33D 26 FA BNE BSTORE
 02240 A33F 32 PUL A
 02250 A340 33 PUL B
 02260 A341 CE 8000 LDX #BUFFER
 02270 A344 39 RTS
 02280
 02290
 02300 A345 81 0A PRINT1 CMP A #800
 02310 A347 26 0E BNE NOTLF
 02320 A349 06 2A LDA B LINEB
 02330 A34B C1 39 CMP B #839 157 DEC.-#8 LINES/PAGE
 02340 A34D 26 05 BNE NOTFIN INC LINES
 02350 A34F 80 09 BSR SEND OFF SEND FORM FEED
 02360 A351 D7 24 STA B LINES
 02370 A353 39 RTS
 02380 A354 7C 002A NOTFIN INC LINES
 02390 A357 80 04 NOTLF BSR PDELAY
 02400 A359 39 RTS
 02410
 02420 A35A 36 SEND OFF PSH A
 02430 A35B 88 BC LOOPS LDA A #88C HEX BC 1B FORM FEED
 02440 A35D D A363 JBR PDELAY
 02450 A360 3F CLR B
 02460 A361 32 PUL A
 02470 A362 39 RTS
 02480
 02490 A363 DF 30 PDELAY BTX XTEMP3 SAVE IXR
 02500 A365 CE 801C LDX #801C SET FOR PORT 07
 02510 A368 3F CLR B
 02520 A369 E7 01 STA B 1,X
 02530 A36B C4 FF LDA B #FF
 02540 A36D E7 00 STA B 0,X
 02550 A36F C4 04 LDA B #804
 02560 A371 E7 01 STA B 1,X
 02570 A373 A7 00 STA A 0,X OUTPUT CHARACTER TO PRINTER
 02580 A375 C4 34 LDA B #836
 02590 A377 E7 01 STA B 1,X
 02600 A379 C4 3E LDA B #83E
 02610 A37B E7 01 STA B 1,X SEND STROBE TO PRINTER
 02620 A37D E4 01 LDA B 1,X
 02630 A37F 24 FC PUL 8-2
 02640 A381 A6 00 LDA A 0,X
 02650 A383 DE 30 LDX XTEMP3
 02660 A385 39 RTS
 02670
 02680 A386 DE 25 ADJUST LDX #ADJUST
 02690 A388 DF 24 BTX EDL
 02700 A38A CE 8000 LDX #ADJUST
 02710 A38D DF 24 STX SOL
 02720 A38F CE B100 LDX #BUFFER2
 02730 392 DF 28 STX PTR2
 02740 A394 96 2F LDA A ENDPNT+1
 02750 A396 90 2D SUB A OFFSET+1
 02760 A398 16 TAB B ACCUMULATOR HOLDS COUNT
 02770 A399 73 0033 COM ADJFL2
 02780 A39C 7D 0033 TST ADJFL2
 02790 A39F 27 18 BED LBP
 02800
 02810 A3A1 5D RSP TBT B
 02820 A3A2 27 5E BEQ DONERJ
 02830 A3A4 DE 2C LDX OFFSET
 02840 A3A6 06 01 LDA A 1,X
 02850 A3A8 09 DEX
 02860 A3A9 DF 2C STX OFFSET
 02870 A3AB DE 26 LDX EDL
 02880 A3AD B1 20 CMP A #820 Check to see if it's a space
 02890 A3AF 24 04 BNE SKPR
 02900 A3B1 A7 01 STA A 1,X
 02910 A3B3 09 DEX
 02920 A3B4 5A DEC B
 02930 A3B5 A7 01 SKPR STA A 1,X
 02940 A3B7 09 DEI
 02950 A3B8 DF 26 BTX EDL
 02960 A3B 20 E3 BRA RSP
 02970
 02980 A3BC 5D LSP TBT B
 02990 A3B8 27 43 BEQ DONERJ If B=0 initially, no adj. reg
 03000 A3BF DE 24 LSLOOP LDX SOL Start of the line
 03010 A3C1 09 DEI
 03020 A3C2 09 DEX
 03030 A3C3 9C 2E CPX ENDPOINT
 03040 A3C5 27 19 BEQ OMLAJ
 03050 A3C7 A6 02 LDA A 2,X Load 1st. letter of line
 03060 A3C9 7C 0025 INC SOL+1
 03070 A3CC DE 28 LDX PTR2

03080 A3D0 3D TBT B
 03090 A3D1 27 08 BEQ SKPL
 03100 A3D1 B1 20 CMP A #820
 03110 A3D3 26 4 BNE SKPL
 03120 A3D5 A7 00 BTA A 0,X
 03130 A3D7 08 INX
 03140 A3D8 5A DEC B
 03150 A3D9 A7 00 SKPL STA A 0,X
 03160 A3DB 08 INX
 03170 A3DC DF 28 STX PTR2
 03180 A3DE 20 DF BRA LSLOOP
 03190
 03200 1 Now switch from BUFFER2 to BUFFER
 03210
 03220 A3E0 CE 8000 DOMLAJ LDX #BUFFER
 03230 A3E3 C6 03 LDA B #83
 03240 A3E5 DB 27 ADD B EOL+1
 03250 A3E7 D7 27 STA B EOL+1
 03260 A3E9 DF 24 STX SOL
 03270 A3EB CE 8100 LDX #BUFFER2
 03280 A3EE 0F 28 BTX PTR2
 03290 A3F0 0E 28 LSLOOP LDX PTR2
 03300 A3F2 A6 00 LDA A 0,X
 03310 A3F4 08 INX
 03320 A3F5 DF 28 STX PTR2
 03330 A3F7 DE 24 LDX SOL
 03340 A3F9 A7 00 STA A 0,X
 03350 A3FB 08 INX
 03360 A3FC DF 24 STX SOL
 03370 A3FE 9C 26 CPX EOL
 03380 A400 26 EE BNE LSLOOP
 03390
 03400 A402 39 DONERJ RTS
 03410
 03420 ***** PATCHES FOR EDITOR *****
 03430 03440 *****
 03450
 03460 0206 ORG \$0206
 03470 03480 0206 7E E1F6 INCH8 JMP \$E1F6 Enable 8-BIT Input
 03490 0209 7E 14A1 OUTCH JMP PRPTCH Patch Character out
 03500
 03510 03520 03530 0214 New Commands
 03540 03550 0214 ORG \$0214
 03560 0214 41 TABLE FCC /A Replace 'APPEND' with 'A'
 03560 0215 00 FCB 0
 03570 0216 1200 FDB \$120D
 03580
 03590 0218 42 FCC /B Replace ''BOTTOM' with 'B'
 03600 0219 00 FCB 0
 03610 021A 098E FDB \$098E
 03620
 03630 021C 43 FCC /C Replace 'COPY' with 'CD'
 03640 021E 00 FCB 0
 03650 021F OFF3 FDB \$0FF3
 03660
 03670 0221 50 FCC /PDN/ Add new command Print On
 03680 0224 00 FCB 0
 03690 0225 1492 FDB PRON
 03700
 03710 0227 50 FCC /P2DN/ Add new command for dble spac
 03720 0220 00 FCB 0
 03730 022C 1496 FDB PR2DN
 03740
 03750 022E 50 FCC /PDFF/ Add new command Print Off
 03760 0232 00 FCB 0
 03770 0233 149A FDB PROFF
 03800
 03810 0235 43 FCC /C Replace 'CHANGE' with 'C'
 03820 0236 00 FCB 0
 03830 0237 00C8 FDB \$0DC8
 03840 0239 47 FCC /GF/ Add Go Format command
 03850 023B 00 FCB 0
 03860 03870 023C A200 FDB INSTR
 03880
 03890 0359 ORG \$0359
 03900 03910 0359 14C0 FDB \$14C0 New starting point for file
 03920 03930 03940 03950 01492 Printer line spacing
 03960
 03970 01492 ORG \$1492
 03980 01492 C6 01 PRON LDA B #801
 03990 01492 C6 02 PR2ON LDA B #802
 04000 01492 20 D2 BRA PSTO
 04010 01492 C6 00 PROFF LDA B #600
 04020 01492 D7 10 PSTO STA B #10
 04030 01492 7E 3B3 JMP \$0383
 04040
 04050 : Character Output Patch
 04060
 04070 14A1 37 PRPTCH PSH B
 04080 14A2 D6 10 LDA B #10
 04090 14A4 C1 00 CMP B #800
 04100 14A6 27 03 BEO NOTPR
 04110 14A8 BD A363 JSR PDELAY
 04120 14A8 33 PUL B
 04130 14AC 39 AT5
 04140 14AD 33 NOTPR PIL B
 04150 14AE 7E E1D1 JMP \$E1D1 Output to CRT only
 04160
 04170 END

TOTAL ERRORS 00000

* Hex Dump of Format Object

```
A200 DE A3 1E 80 E0 7E D A2 C4 DE 97 DF 58 DE 99 DF  
A210 SA CE 80 00 D8 96 28 98 25 97 2F 7F 00 2A BD  
A220 A2 DA DE 38 3F A8 00 08 81 0D 26 10 08 08 08 DF  
A230 38 20 F1 BD A2 C4 88 80 97 2F 20 E8 B1 7E 27 5A  
A240 B1 2E 27 15 B1 3E 27 E9 B1 5C 27 67 B1 00 26 1E  
A250 20 02 04 BD A3 45 20 15 E6 00 C1 20 26 03 3F  
A260 20 0C C1 39 2E 04 C1 30 2B 92 20 02 C4 20 0F 58  
A270 DE 2C A7 00 08 DF 2C 9C 2E 27 08 C1 20 26 A1 DE  
A280 2C E7 00 35 20 E8 09 A6 00 B1 20 27 17 DF 2C DE  
A290 58 09 A7 00 D8 38 DE 2C 20 EC DF 58 7F 00 32 7F  
A2A0 00 33 DE 2C 8D 29 7D 00 32 27 3 8D A3 88 8D 3F  
A2B0 7E A2 1F DE 2C 8D 0A A7 00 A7 01 86 00 A7 02 BD  
A2B0 4E 7E 02 03 8D E1 AC 97 11 BD E0 35 97 2B 39 86  
A2D0 A4 07 00 86 00 A7 01 A7 02 39 06 10 C1 01 27 04  
A2E0 04 08 89 61 96 11 B1 32 27 02 20 08 DE 80 00 06  
A2F0 2C 8D 41 7C 00 32 38 C4 50 00 28 27 E7 B1 43 6  
A300 01 57 84 20 54 37 88 3D 33 C1 00 27 DF 20 F5 CE  
A310 80 00 64 00 BD 2F B1 0D 27 03 08 20 F5 39 10 16  
A320 4C 49 4E 20 46 4F 52 4D 41 54 20 28 48 45 58  
A330 29 0A 0D 04 36 37 FC C6 50 A7 00 08 MA 26 FA 32  
A340 33 CE 80 00 39 B1 0A 26 0E D6 2A C1 39 26 05 80  
A350 09 07 2B 39 7C 00 24 8D 0A 39 36 8C 8D A3 63  
A360 5F 32 39 DF 30 CE 80 1C SF E7 01 C6 FF E7 00 C6  
A370 04 E7 01 07 00 C8 38 E7 01 C8 3E E7 01 E6 01 2A  
A380 FC AF 00 DE 30 39 DE 2E DF 28 CE B0 00 DF 24 CE  
A390 B1 00 DF 2B 9C 2F 90 2D 16 73 00 33 78 00 33 27  
A3A0 1B 5D 27 5E DE 2C A4 01 09 DF 2C DE 2B B1 20 26  
A3B0 04 A7 01 09 5A A7 01 09 DF 26 20 E5 5D 27 43 DE  
A3C0 24 09 09 9C E2 27 19 A6 02 7C 00 25 DE 2B 5D 27  
A3D0 08 B1 20 26 04 A7 00 08 5A A7 00 08 DF 28 20 DF  
A3E0 CE B0 00 C6 03 DB 27 07 27 DF 24 CE B1 00 0F 2B  
A3F0 DE 2B A6 00 08 DF 28 DE 24 A7 00 08 DF 24 9C 26  
A400 26 EE 39 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01
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* Patches for TSC Editor

```
0200 7E 03 35 7E 03 B3 7E E1 F6 7E 14 A1 7E 02 03 7E  
0210 E1 B1 7F FF 41 00 12 0D 42 00 09 BE 43 4F 00 0F  
0220 F3 30 4F 4E 00 14 92 30 32 4F 4E 00 14 96 50 4F  
0230 46 46 00 14 94 43 00 0D CB 47 46 00 A2 00 A3 B0  
  
0250 49 4C 45 3A 04 8E 01 FF CE 14 C0 DF 97 DF 99 CE  
  
1490 03 FF C4 01 20 06 C6 02 20 02 C6 00 07 10 7E 03  
1490 B3 37 04 10 C1 00 27 05 B0 A3 63 33 39 33 7E E1  
1490 B1 7E E1 B1 BD C9 70 7E 02 03 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01
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* THOSE WONDERFUL MEMORY-MAPPED VIDEO BOARDS

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One of the most important decisions facing the home computer user is the choice of an appropriate video terminal. Probably at least ninety-percent of the time spent at the computer will be done staring into the CRT. This is also the showcase for the uninitiated. Family and friends will judge the relative "value" of a home computer based on what they see on the screen. Like it or not, we must all become salesmen occasionally, if we want the home computer industry to grow.

Until recently, the choices for the 68XX user were limited to serial terminals. Unfortunately, the serial terminal adds a disproportionate cost onto the system -- especially when compared to mass-produced, off-the-shelf computers. Also, serial terminals are usually limited to as-purchased features. Drastic changes to the format or attributes are, at best, difficult if not impossible. A serial terminal was intended primarily for multiuser systems and systems where the CPU was physically distant from the user. This is not the case with most home systems, and we would like to minimize the impact of these basic problems.

To answer these problems, several manufacturers have combined CRT Controller integrated circuits with the concept of memory-mapping and have developed products that rival the performance of high cost terminals -- at a fraction of the price. One of the best features of this new breed of boards is their relative flexibility. Many of the features that were once considered to be hardware fixed are now directly under the control of software.

MEMORY-MAPPED VIDEO -- THE CONCEPT

The CRT output circuitry of every serial terminal contains something called a screen memory. This is ordinary RAM that contains an "image" of the text to be displayed on the CRT -- one byte for every character on the display. There is also some control logic that acts as a traffic cop for the rest of the system. It takes character data from the computer and, at the appropriate time, sticks them into the proper screen memory locations. It keeps track of the cursor, does scrolling and other visual attributes, plus generates all the timing, edges and sync signals necessary to drive the CRT. While doing all this, the control logic must also provide addresses to the screen memory and character generating logic so that the proper sequence of data (or pixels) can be formed on the screen.

Regardless of what conventions the terminal must go through, the sole objective of the CPU is to get a byte of data into the proper place in the screen memory. Built into 68XX microcomputers is an ultimately simple method for doing just this: LDA and STA instructions! In order to use these instructions, the screen

memory must physically consist of RAM and be on the bus, addressable by the CPU. Thus we have now represented (mapped) screen memory as memory within the address space of the CPU.

There is one other immediate problem: the central logic also needs to address this portion of memory. To solve this, multiplexers are placed on the screen memory address and data lines. Memory contention logic must now be designed to resolve which one gets access to the memory -- the CPU or the central logic. This is not a trivial task and can lead to some very undesirable results if not properly handled.

CRT CONTROLLER IC'S

To construct the functions necessary to generate sideset pulses, it may take between 68 and 188 ordinary TTL chips. This chip count has been considerably reduced by CRT Controller (CRTC) chips that combine many of the necessary functions. 68-50 Bus manufacturers have designed complete video boards using either the MOTOROLA 6845 or the SMC 5027. Thus discussion will be limited to these chips. For reference, other chips in this category include the DP835 (NATIONAL SEMICONDUCTOR), the B275 (INTEL), and the 6545 (SYNERTEK).

To a great extent the design of the board, the functions that are available to the user, and their ease of use is dictated by the particular CRTC that is chosen. Some insight can be gained by first looking at the individual functions of the 6845 and the 5027 at the chip level. Refer to Table I which summarizes the salient features and to Figure 1 which is a general block diagram of a CRTC Video Board.

In Figure 1, all functions outside of the CRTC block must be provided by the video board designer. Within the block there are two other major differences: (1) the 6845 provides for directly connecting a light pen while the 5027 does not, and (2) the 5027 provides a programmable pipeline delay, a delay necessary to properly phase the video data with the blanking and cursor signals. 6845 users must provide this delay with external circuitry.

The remainder of the logical functions within the CRTC block are provided by both chips. But some of these functions have significant differences in their versatility and operation. For example, the 5027 has only a block cursor with no blinking capability. The 6845 has two blink rates, plus any portion of the cursor block can be filled in, by software, a raster line at a time.

The programmable registers can be roughly divided into two categories: format and timing registers, which are usually loaded once during initialization and operating registers, which may be frequently accessed and manipulated during operation. The 5027 requires less format and timing register space due to its smaller display format range. This is not really a disadvantage, as it is difficult to imagine anyone wanting to build an alphanumeric display that exceeds a 132 x 64 format. The 6845 has more operating registers due to the additional cursor and light pen features.

Memory addressing in the 6845 is linear, that is, all display locations are assumed to be a continuous string of memory. As far as software is concerned, this is not always the most efficient method. For example, when trying to implement a screen-oriented editor, functions such as insert/delete lines and characters are often considerably easier to code if the memory is organized on a column/row basis as in the 5027. The disadvantage to the column/row approach is that it is accomplished at the cost of memory usage efficiency (unless the line and row lengths happen to be a power of two).

Another feature that is now becoming increasingly popular in high line terminals is the so-called "soft scroll". This is where text scrolling is done on a raster line at a time basis giving a very pleasing roll up effect instead of jumping a line at a time. For years of the 5027, SMC has written an application note describing a simple circuit that can be added to provide soft scrolling. Unfortunately, this feature was not implemented on any of the 68-50 boards that used the 5027. I know of no easy way to implement this feature with the 6845.

It is also worth mentioning that the 5027 has a self loading feature which, at restart, will load all format and timing registers from an external PROM. This feature was primarily intended for terminals that lacked CPU support. When this feature is used the programmer no longer has control over the format and timing registers.

THE VIDEO BOARDS -- GENERAL OPERATION

At present, there are four memory-mapped video boards available for the 68-50 bus that utilize a CRT Controller IC. Table II is a comparison chart that outlines the pertinent hardware features of each board. While this chart is far from perfect, it will serve as a starting point for discussing the features and capabilities of each board.

The general setup and operation with any of the four video boards is essentially the same. After address selection is made, the video board simply plugs into one of the 56-pin slots on the base. The only external connection is a user-supplied cable and connector to the CRT monitor's video input. Remember, the board functions as an output device only -- no hardware is provided for keyboard input. It is up to the user to provide a keyboard, a keyboard input port, and a compatible character input routine.

Assuming the appropriate software is in place, a short initialization routine is activated upon power up. This is where the screen and cursor format is defined and the other CRTC registers brought to initial conditions. At this time the screen is also usually cleared and the system monitor program starts up, displaying a prompt character.

A special video character output routine, replacing OUTEE, now handles all writing to the screen and control functions. This is where the flexibility of the video boards really begins to shine. This routine can be written to emulate almost any terminal in town, from the dumbest light on up to the most intelligent. The video output routine is, of course, merely a convenience as it does all the mundane bookkeeping of cursor position, scrolling, etc. There is no good reason why an application's program cannot bypass this routine and load data directly into memory.

Used in this manner, a full-fledged terminal has now been emulated with a video board. At this point, the biggest difference the user will observe is the blinding speed of the display operation. It goes so fast that you will probably want to insert a delay until you get used to it.

HARDWARE

All of the boards come assembled and tested with the exception of the F & D version, which is bare board and documentation only. Each board was well laid out and constructed, and also presented a very good visual appearance. The F & D board is about 1/4 inch wider and higher than "standard" SSB-50 size. The others were the usual dimensions.

Percom sockets nine of the larger chips, but flux solders the rest of the components to the board. Gimix and Smoke Signal Broadcasting (SSB) socket all of the chips, and they even add a socket for the video cable. These two boards also have a green epoxy solder mask and gold plated bus connectors ... SSB even goes as far as to silk screen the component sides of the board with all of the component labels. Quality Control was apparently on the ball, too, for I could not detect a single manufacturing flaw in any of the boards I examined.

THE CHARACTER CLOCK COMPROMISE

About the only thing that is not programmable on the boards is the character clock rate. The character clock is the amount of time allotted, per character, during horizontal retrace. In other words, this determines the width of each character plus any space in between characters. It is obtained by dividing down the dot clock (which clocks out the individual pixels).

Eight dot clocks wide is a convenient choice for a character clock if one also wishes to use a graphics character generator. In this way, one byte can be clocked out in graphics mode and not leave blank spaces between characters on the screen. Both Gimix and SSB do this, using a character cell size of 8 x 16 (8 pixels wide by 16 raster lines deep) in which they place a 5 x 7 character. The characters, of course, are not as well defined as the more dense 7 x 9 character generator would produce. However, it is the overall appearance of the display that really counts, and a 5 x 7 character inside an 8 x 16 cell produces a total result that is quite pleasing to the eye and very readable.

F & D has opted to design in more character definition, with 17 x 9 character places inside an 8 x 12 cell. To my eye, this method does not leave enough space between characters. Also, the Aspect (height to width) Ratio, in non-interlaced mode, deviates too far from "normal" to give a comfortable effect. However, when I connected this board into a very high quality monitor and used the interlaced mode, the display was considerably improved and quite acceptable. Then again, this effect may not bother you in the slightest.

Meanwhile, Percom has also decided to use a 7 x 9 character generator. But notice that each character is placed in a larger 10 x 14 cell size. This results in probably the nicest looking alphanumeric display of all. Well defined characters combined with the wider spacing total up to an outstanding display. To accomplish this, unfortunately, a couple of sacrifices had to be made. First, the larger cell size limits the display to about 80 x 16 in the non-interlaced mode. Second, in order to fill up a 10 wide cell with 8 graphic bits, the bits had to be doubled up. In the character graphics mode only the first five bits are used each bit being clocked out twice. This effectively cuts down on the horizontal resolution. A small price to pay if you are predominantly interested in an alphanumeric display.

While the character cell width is fixed by the hardware, the height of each cell is programmable. You can add spaces between each line on the display in increments of one scan line. The minimum height of a character cell will be determined by the particular character generator used.

Going back to the horizontal format for a moment, there is one other subtlety worth mentioning. Once the horizontal dot clock frequency is chosen, this automatically fixes the maximum line length. For example, suppose we initialize the board for an 80 x 24 format and then, for some reason, we wish to change this to, say, 64 x 16. We can certainly do this, but what happens to the line length? The line length, being fixed, is still 80 characters or so long but only 64 of them are displayed. We do not get 64 characters spread out into the same space that the 80 characters used to take up! In order to do that, we must change the dot clock crystal.

THE OVERWORKED BIT

To display a character in normal operation, it is only necessary to store the ASCII code for that character into the appropriate location in screen memory. As ASCII is only a seven bit code, this leaves one bit laying around to play with. The common approach taken by F & D, SSB, and Percom is to use this extra bit to control graphics mode OR visual attributes on a character by character basis. Thus you can, via hardware jumpers, set for the ability to select either the Graphics ROM, inverse video, or half intensity simply by setting the eighth bit in the ASCII character. Note that once one of these options is selected, the other two are not available.

Gimix had a slightly more complex problem to resolve. The three different character generators, plus inverse video and half intensity, on their board could not be selected with just one bit. So, while the other manufacturers took the straightforward design approach, Gimix had to devise an alternate method to program the board.

THE GIMIX "CONTROL PORT" CONCEPT

In a "standard" design approach, the CRTC registers are just placed on the bus, and given an address, thus allowing the programmer direct access to the chip. Gimix, however, designed in a four address Central Port between the CRTC and the SSB-50 bus lines. All control and attribute functions are programmed through this four byte Central Port; the user does not have direct access to the CRTC registers.

Central Port 0 is the control register with each bit serving a unique function. Some of the functions are enable/disable the memory, select mode, blank the display, and turn cursor on, off, or blink/steady (Gimix added a cursor flashing circuit to their board). Bit 7 of Port 0 has a nice feature -- it is high during vertical retrace time. The CPU can poll this bit allowing screen updates with no splatter.

Central Port 1 is a dual purpose register, its function set by bit 2 of Port 0. During normal operation, it will be selected as the scroll register. Its other function is what Gimix has termed the "Mode Programming Port". Through this port an onboard 16 byte RAM is loaded. This allows the user to preprogram up to 16 unique combinations for attribute and character generator selection (instead of just one). The combinations are then triggered depending upon which "grep" the ASCII character falls into (control, numeric, upper or lower case), and which "slot" (the seventh ASCII bit).

Ports 2 and 3 are the X,Y position of the cursor. Gimix has included two pages of charts that completely define the function and programming of all four ports.

While the Gimix Central Ports handle the usual operating register functions, what about the format registers? It seems that Gimix has taken advantage of the self programming feature of the S027 CRTC. They have added a special PROM (no info included) to automatically load the format registers on power up/reset. Thus, the user no longer has control of the screen format -- it comes up 80 x 24 until a different PROM is installed. Be sure that your monitor can handle an 80 x 24 format, if you elect to buy the Gimix board.

THE MEMORY CONTENTION PROBLEM

As was noted before, the CRTC must continuously address the screen memory to provide refresh data for the display. It would also be nice if the CPU could write to the screen memory as that new characters could be displayed. Multiplexers on the address lines prevent the obvious failure from occurring. But now the big question becomes -- when do we switch the multiplexers?

If the designer *certainly* goes ahead and says the CPU always gets priority, then a very sticky problem occurs. Suppose the processor decides to update memory during an active raster scan, when the screen really needs data from the screen memory to maintain refresh. The memory are switched and now the wrong data (as far as the screen is concerned) appears on the bus! Result? The wrong data gets clocked out and a very annoying snow effect splatters the screen. This is also called, among other things, access flicker.

There are a couple of things a designer can do to alleviate this effect: first, a latch can be added on the data bus between the screen memory and the character generator. This will insure that the correct data will stay put for at least one character time. This usually helps but is not, in itself, sufficient. The next step is to provide a circuit that actually blanks the screen during CPU access times (this ends up happening for only a small portion of one raster line). The rationale being that no data is better than the wrong data, which turns out to be entirely valid.

Percom, SSB, and Gimix all attack the problem in this manner. I viewed the display generated by each of these boards under various CPU access conditions and could detect no disastrous splatter on the screen. F & D, however, did not take either of the precautions. As a result, considerable flicker appears on the screen. Fortunately, there is a rather simple addition that can be made to almost completely eliminate the problem. The necessary modifications are outlined in Figure 2.

Another way to avoid any flicker is to give the CPU priority but only update the screen memory during the vertical retrace periods. This slows the CPU down somewhat, but it is certainly a viable solution for alphanumeric applications. Gimix has the only board that brings the retrace signal out to the bus.

The best solution to the problem is to take advantage of the two-phase clock generated by 68XX systems. The trick is to let the CRTC address the screen memory on one phase and let the CPU use the other phase. Total transparency is thus achieved. The main drawback to this method is that it requires the CPU clock to be synchronized with the CRTC clock. Apparently the problem is economically insurmountable -- nobody uses it.

DOCUMENTATION

Along with the video board, each manufacturer provides a User's Guide. These manuals cannot possibly include complete information on all aspects and applications of memory-mapped video boards. Nonetheless, they all provide sufficient information to successfully get up and running. In content and readability, I found all of them to be roughly on par.

A schematic and parts list is included with each manual with SSB and F & D also adding a short circuit description. F & D, being the only non-assembled board, comes with two pages of brief assembly instructions.

SOFTWARE

Any of the video board hardware, of course, is completely helpless without software to back it up. As a bare minimum you will need an initialization routine and a character output routine. On power up or reset, the initialization routine programs all the CRTC registers and starts you out in the home position with a cleared screen. The character output routine takes the place of DUTEE -- it displays any printable ASCII character on the screen, moves the cursor appropriately, and handles scrolling the display. It also must be able to recognize and respond to at least the most common control characters. All manufacturers provide, with some minor variations, at least one good example of each of these routines.

What remains to be done now is to patch these routines into your existing operating system. Usually this will mean burning a new EPROM that has been rewritten to include these routines -- or at least resector addresses appropriately. I reroute the output routine to include a lookahead command jump table. I can now load additional functions into RAM as the need arises.

As mentioned before, one real forte of video boards is that their functions can be dramatically altered simply by adding the appropriate program. To demonstrate this, the manufacturers have included some clever examples of additional functions that can be added to the basic program.

F & D, for example, adds an escape sequence to their character output routine that includes some rather nice graphics commands. It is designed to work around their optional Graphics EPROM which contains enough special characters to emulate TBS-88 graphics (128x48 block resolution). Using about 550 additional bytes, they now add commands to set, reset, or invert any block by inputting X, Y coordinates and a routine to draw a line between any two X, Y points. They have also included a short joy stick input routine for the onboard PIA. At additional cost, F & D has available a program they call FADBUG-IIHS. This is a completely MIKEUG compatible monitor with video drivers included. It fits very comfortably into a 2716 EPROM and can be plugged right into the SUTPC MP-A2 processor board.

Percom includes their MINDEX program which, as written, will simulate an elementary terminal in an 80 x 16 format. As a demonstration, Percom also includes Cliff Eschling's version of the now famous "Game of Life". It requires less than 3k of memory and it takes about six seconds per generation (6000 version).

Smoke Signal Broadcasting has come up with what is easily the most extensive video driver of all. In addition to the bare-bones necessities, they have written 14 escape sequences and control character functions that really begin to show the potential of programmable video boards. There are 15 escape sequences and 10 control character commands. Some of the more notable ones:

- Set or clear a protected field on the screen.
- Position the cursor to any X, Y location.
- Read character at the Cursor position.
- Set a delay count to allow any desired scroll rate.
- Turn graphics characters on/off.

The entire program comes already installed in an onboard 2708 EPROM. All you have to do is vector to it.

The Gimix board comes with a 450 byte listing of their Stand Alone Video Driver (SVD). As is, this program provides the basic terminal functions with a couple of interesting features. The "bell" control character toggles a latch at a programmable rate. The latch can be hooked up to a speaker to provide an audible beep. Their KEYIN input routine also has a novel twist: The cursor is normally off -- calling this routine turns the cursor on, calls INDEX, turns the cursor off, and then returns.

Gimix's biggest contribution, however, is an outstanding program called MAKECHAR. This is a 41 interactive program for creating character sets for use on their Programmable character generator. This program is cursor based with 21 commands that allow one to easily design and edit any special character. A program of this type is almost indispensable for any serious work with a programmable character generator.

Unfortunately, Gimix does not include any example programs to illustrate the potential use of their unique Central Parts. I think this area deserves a couple of clever demonstration programs to tickle the user's imagination.

GRAPHICS CAPABILITIES

The "Graphics Mode" feature claimed by each manufacturer is really a misnomer. None of the boards are capable, as is, of producing a pixel controlled graphic display. What they do produce is more aptly termed semigraphics or block graphics.

In a pixel graphics display, one bit in screen memory is used to control one pixel on the screen. However, all of the boards described here are oriented towards alphanumeric displays (in which character generator logic assures reusability for making the individual pixels). This considerably limits our control over the display area. At this point, the best that can be done is to define another character set that contains a set of special shapes and figures. The shape can be any combination of dots inside the basic character cell. With a cleverly designed character set and a little imagination, some amazing things can be done with a semigraphic mode.

F & D, Percom, and Gimix all include steering logic and space for an optional EPROM character generator. You can select between the two on character-by-character basis, thus allowing alpha-

numerics and semigraphics simultaneously. SSB chose to combine the ASCII and special character generators into one EPROM. A 2716 comes standard on their board -- it contains 96 ASCII characters and 32 special graphic figures. That same socket can also be jumper configured to accept a 2732 (not supplied) which accounts for the SSB claim of 256 character capability.

Unfortunately, no matter how carefully you design a special character set, Murphy says that the next program you write will require at least one character that you do not have. Gimix has solved this problem by also including a 2k programmable character generator. With 2k,128 special symbols can be created at a time. In my opinion, this outstanding feature should become a standard for any video board.

THE CRT MONITOR

Here is where the proverbial "weak link" will become most obvious. Even the best designed video board cannot completely overcome the inherent deficiencies in a low-line CRT Monitor. The larger format, professional-looking displays that these video boards are capable of producing will require commensurate performance from the CRT monitor. Marginal bandwidth, low persistence phosphor, poor vertical and horizontal linearity, and uneven focus are all factors of the CRT that can add up to a disappointing end result.

As display appearance is quite subjective, you should decide for yourself what is acceptable and what is not. If you already own a low-line monitor, be prepared to accept some compromises in display format. With most of the video boards, you can simply reprogram a larger format if and when you upgrade to a better CRT monitor. If you are about to purchase a monitor, I suggest that you do not pinch pennies in this area. If at all possible arrange to see a demonstration before you buy.

INTO THE BACKSTRETCH

In this article, I have presented an overview starting with serial terminals and proceeding through CRTC's and the memory-mapped video concept. For now, the overview had to stop with a look at some of the presently available hardware. In the larger sense, any one of the video boards will produce approximately the same results when used in alphanumeric terminal applications. Thus, I zeroed in only on the differences among the boards. Some of them, admittedly, were only fine shades of differences, or highly subjective differences.

After digesting everything up to this point, the ultimate question must now be posed -- "Which one do I buy?". If the technical aspects have not already answered this question for you, other factors such as cost, manufacturer's credibility, reliability and personal preference, etc., must be used to tip the scale. To wrap up this part of the article, I will plunge in head first and offer some of my personal observations on each board.

F & D represents the clear cut choice for those on a limited budget and with an insatiable lust for tinkering. Some clever shapping can bring this board home for around \$150. But remember this is parts cost alone -- you will still have a considerable time investment in procuring parts, assembly, and checkout. If you goof, it will cost you at least an additional \$50 to have F & D straighten out your indiscretions. It is a little rough around the edges, but it works just fine. Cartage charges do not usually have the advantages inherent in a full-time company that are necessary to turn out a top-notch product. However you are also not paying for all of these, sometimes needless, frills.

The Percom board has two big advantages. It has the lowest price tag of the all assembled and tested boards, and it produces the nicest looking alphanumeric display. On the other hand, it has the least amount of available memory and only half the graphics mode resolution the other boards possess. Also, should anything go wrong, troubleshooting will be more difficult due to lack of a fully-schelched board. For those still on budget, inclined more towards using than building, and primarily interested in alphanumeric applications, the Percom board should represent the best value received for the dollar spent.

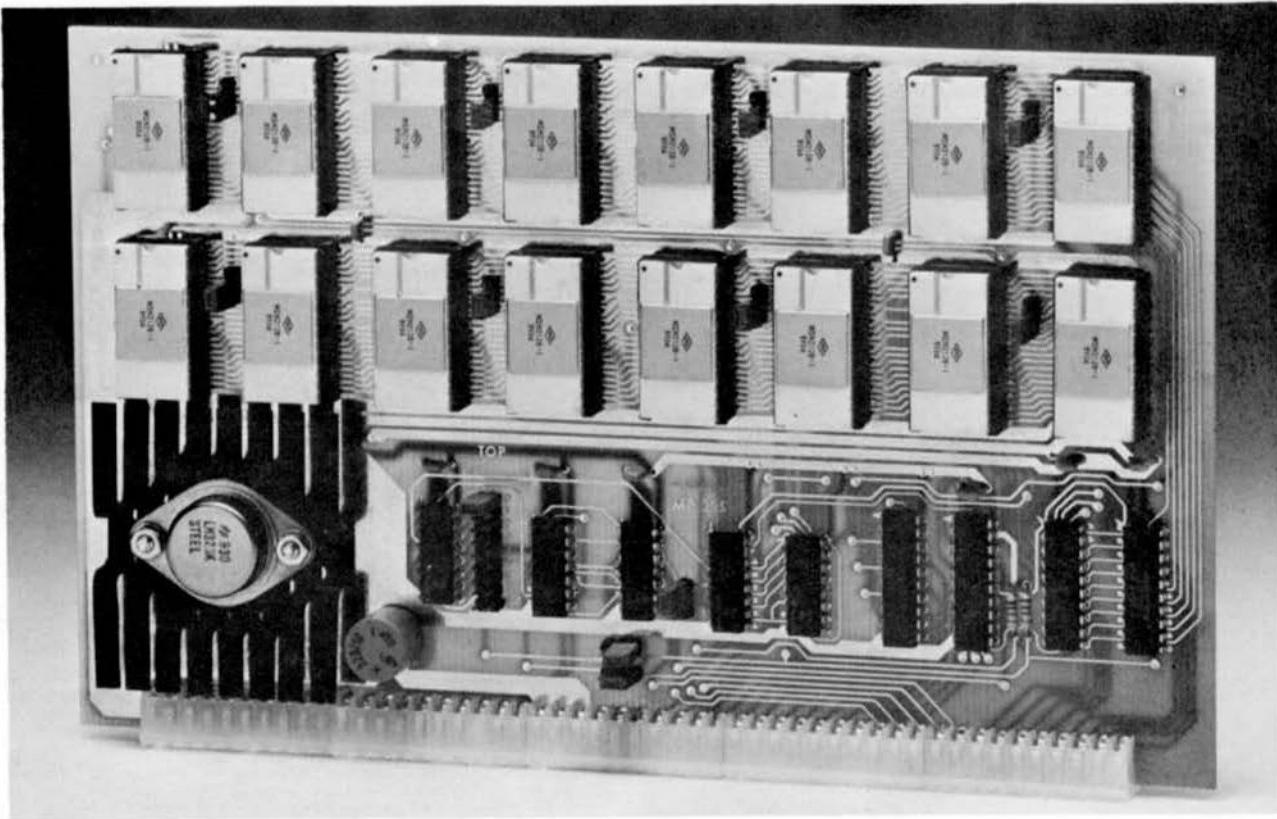
Gimix leaps us into another category altogether. This is definitely a commercial quality board with a slightly less than commercial price tag. This board is definitely not for the budget minded. However, its wealth of features is perhaps sufficient to sway many into splurging in this area and shoving elsewhere. The programmable character generator alone is very tempting. Remember though, the Gimix board will probably require a higher quality CRT monitor to be most effective. The one feature I do not like is the self boot up of the format registers. I feel these registers should be left under the control of the user.

Quality-wise, the SSB board equals, perhaps even surpasses, the Gimix board. The circuit design is extremely sound, but rather straightforward. The only unique circuit feature is that the video drivers are included in firmware on the board. Although these drivers provide some powerful functions, the same functions can be programmed into any of the video boards. I feel this board could use some of the innovative features normally associated with higher quality, higher priced products.

The scale tipper for SSB would have to be manufacturer credibility. Of all the manufacturers I contacted, SSB proved to be the most patient with the least amount of predding. They were the only ones who volunteered to lend an evaluation board for this article -- and did not even complain when the board was returned four weeks later. I have no doubt that SSB would not only provide a reliable product but also plenty of prompt and courteous backup service.

WHAT'S NEXT?

As good as these video boards are, state-of-the-art hardware in industry has already outstripped their capabilities. Some of this technology is even now trickling down into the newer home



UNIVERSAL STATIC MEMORY

- ★ 32K bytes - ROM, RAM, EPROM or a combination
- ★ SS-50 A&C compatible with 16 and 20 bit address decoding
- ★ Compatible with all SWTPC 6800 and 6809 computers
- ★ 2.0 MHz - 5.0 Volts only

This is the most versatile memory card you can buy. Our S-32 may be populated with up to 32K of static RAM, EPROM, or ROM, or any 4K block combination of these that you may desire. Any 5-volt 2716 pinout compatible memory may be used in this card. Any 4K block of memory may be jumper block programmed for RAM or ROM use. This feature makes this the ideal memory for those process control applications that require a mixture of ROM and RAM

memory. The board is fully compatible with all SWTPC 6800 and 6809 computers.

The power requirement for the board is only 1.75 amps at 5.0 volts with a full 32K of RAM installed.

S-32 Circuit card only \$124.50
S3216 with 16K of RAM \$375.00 ea.
S3232 with 32K of RAM \$575.00 ea.

SWTPC

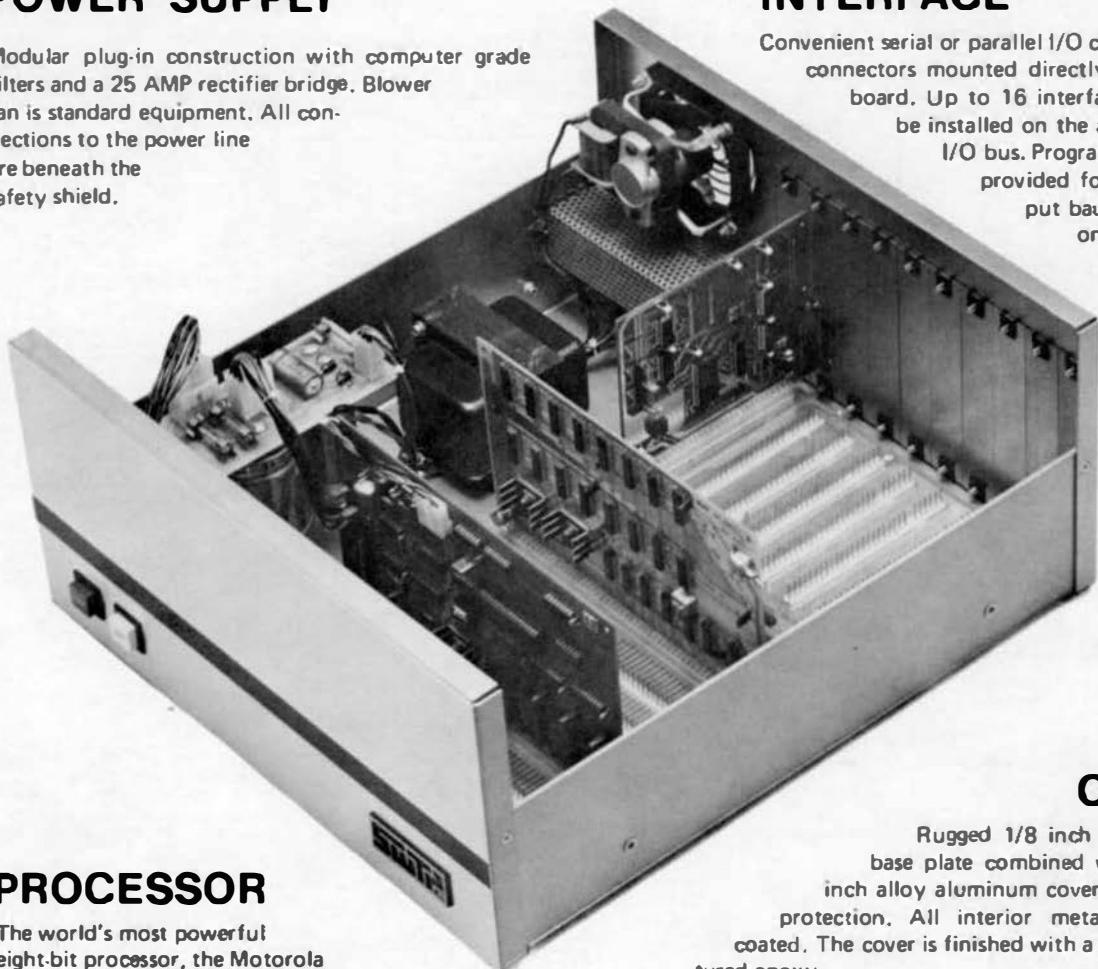
SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL PRODUCTS CORPORATION
219 W. RAPSODY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78216

(512) 344-0241

WE HAVE A 6809 FOR YOU

POWER SUPPLY

Modular plug-in construction with computer grade filters and a 25 AMP rectifier bridge. Blower fan is standard equipment. All connections to the power line are beneath the safety shield.



PROCESSOR

The world's most powerful eight-bit processor, the Motorola MC6809, plus 2K byte monitor ROM that is 2716 EPROM compatible and full buffering on all output lines. Built-in multiuser capability, just add I/O cards to operate a multi-terminal system.

MEMORY— You can purchase the computer with either 8K bytes of RAM memory (expandable to 56K), or with the "S" series 64K bytes of RAM memory expandable to 768 K.

PERIPHERALS— The wide range of peripheral hardware that is supported by the 6809 includes: dot matrix printers (both 80 and 132 column), IBM Electronic 50 typewriter, daisy wheel printers, 5-inch floppy disk system, 8-inch floppy disk systems and a 16 megabyte hard disk.

SOFTWARE— The amount of software support available for the 6809 is incredible when you consider that it was first introduced in June, 1979. In addition to the FLEX9 operating system, we have a Text Editor, Mnemonic Assembler, Debug, Sort-Merge, BASIC, Extended BASIC, MultiUser BASIC, FORTRAN, PASCAL and PILOT.

69/K Computer Kit with 8K bytes of memory	\$ 660.00
69/A Assembled Computer with 8K bytes of memory	\$ 799.00
09/ Assembled Computer "S" series with 64K bytes of memory	\$1,835.00



SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL PRODUCTS CORPORATION
219 W. RAPSODY
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(512) 344-0241

competitors. What needs to be developed now is a video board with simultaneous alpha, semi-graphic, and full graphic capability, plus character by character control of ALL attributes. The graphics should be high speed, have resolution of at least 256 x 192, be flicker free, and have optional gray scale or color capability. Annotated and animated graphics displays were a dream yesterday, are a reality today, and will be a necessity tomorrow.

Preparing for things to come, part two of this article will tackle graphics. Easy and inexpensive modifications will be given that will convert the F & D board into a 256 x 192 pixel graphics board. A set of machine language graphics drivers will also be presented that will allow you to begin immediately writing some graphics applications programs.

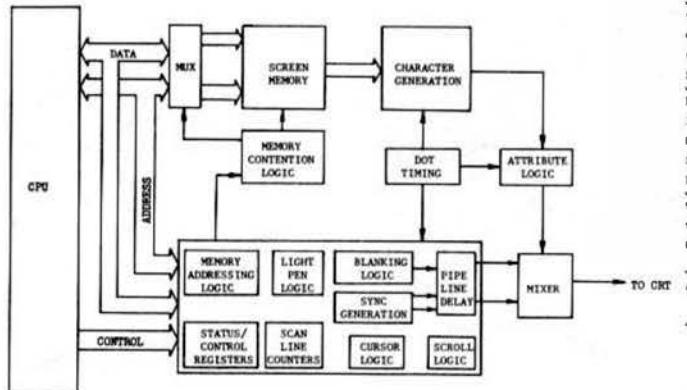


FIGURE 1. Memory-Mapped Video Board -- Block Diagram

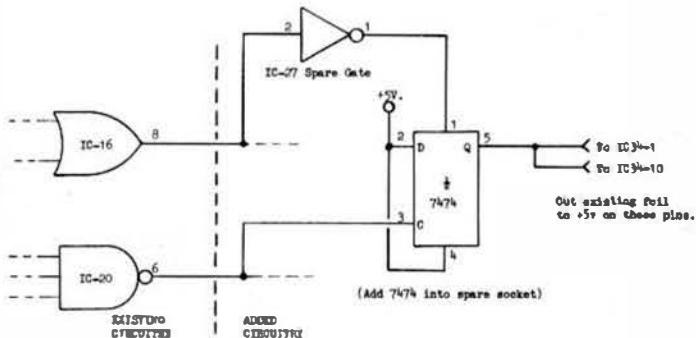


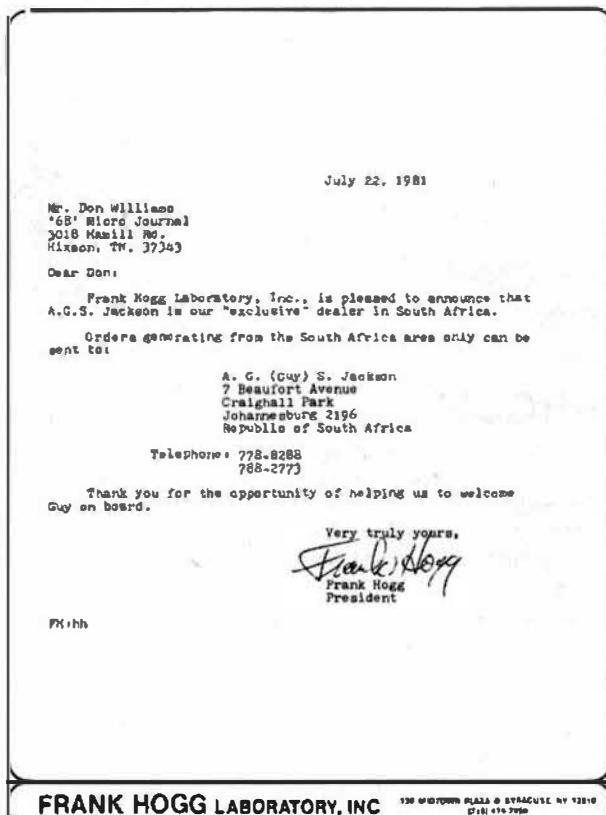
FIGURE 2. Modification to F & D Board to minimize access flicker.

FEATURES	MOTOROLA 6845	SMC 5027
Pins	40	40
Power Supplies	+5 +12 -12	+5 +12 -12
Process	MMOS	MMOS
Dot Timing Oscillator	External	External
Interlace Operation	Yes, 2 modes	Yes
Monitor Interface	Yes	Yes
Horiz/vert sync	No	No
Composite video	Yes	Yes
Display Format Range	1 - 256	20 - 122
Characters/row	1 - 128	1 - 64
Rows/frame	1 - 32	1 - 16
Scan lines/row		
Memory Address Range	16k bytes	4k bytes
Memory Addressing Method	Linear	Row/Column
Internal Cursor Register and Mode Control	Blink, block, and underline	Block only
Light Pen Register	Yes	No
Address Scrolling	Yes	Yes
Other Visual Attributes	None	None
Memory Contention Logic	None	None
Video Pipeline Control	No	Yes
Programmable Registers	4	2
Horiz format/timing	Cursor Pos (2)	4
Vert format/timing	Start Addr (2)	Cursor Pos(2)
Operating Registers	Light Pen (2)	Scroll (1)
	Cursor Fill(2)	

TABLE I. Summary of CRT Controller Features.

FEATURE	F & D ASSOC.	PERCOM	GIMIX	SMOKE SIGNAL
CRT Controller Used	6845	5027	5027	6845
Retail Price	(See Text)	\$260	\$460	\$395
Character Cell Size	8 x 12	10 x 14	8 x 10	8 x 10
Primary Char. Gen. Matrix	7 x 9	7 x 9	5 x 7	5 x 7
Other Char. Generators	Yes (2708/16)	Yes (2708/16)	Yes (2716)	Yes
Programmable Char. Gen.	No	No	Yes (128 Chars)	No
On Board Screen RAM	4k bytes	2k bytes	2k bytes	2k bytes
Screen RAM Addressing	Any 4k Block	MC6809, MC6808	Any 2k Block	Any 4k Block
Other Addresses Req'd	256 Bytes of X5XX or X7XX	None	4 Bytes at any 4 Byte Boundary	None
Video Cable Socket	No	No	Yes	Yes
Gold-Plated Bus Connectors	-----	No	Yes	Yes
Epoxy Solder Mask	No	No	Yes	Yes
Silk-Screened Labels	No	No	No	Yes
Dot Clock Frequency	14.318 MHz	16.000 MHz	15.091 MHz	17.055 MHz
I.C. Count	57	30	36	31
User I/O Port	3 PIA	None	None	None
Separate Sync & Video Out	Yes	Yes	Composite Only	Composite Only
Display Formats Available	Programmable	Programmable	80 x 24 Only	Programmable
Visible Access Pitch	Yes	No	No	No
Video Driver Software	Source Listing	Source Listing	Source Listing	On Board EPROM
Memory Contention Logic	CPU Priority	CPU Priority	CPU Priority & Vert. Retrace	CPU Priority
Attributes Available	Inverse Video, or Half Intensity, or Graphics ROM	Inverse Video, or Half Intensity, or Graphics ROM	Selected by Control Port (See Text)	Inverse Video, or Half Intensity, or Graphics ROM

TABLE II. Video Board Comparison Chart



FRANK HOGG LABORATORY, INC.

130 WINTON PLAZA • SYRACUSE NY 13210
(315) 456-7950



Dear Dan,

In response to the mail you have been receiving concerning Unifill®, let me try to answer a few questions.

Unifill® does NOT require program to be relocatable. Program also does NOT have to be re-entered. I think these misconceptions have come about due to the requirements of Microsoft's MS-9 level 1 which does require fully position independent code. I do not currently know what the requirements of MS-9 level II are.

Another question which is often asked concerns "FLEX" software compatibility with Uniflex². At the assembly language level, programs are definitely incompatible. It is certainly possible to convert FLEX software to run under Uniflex², one potentially useful supposition being the I/O sections of the program. We are currently playing with a version of FLEX which runs as a task under Uniflex² which would allow one to run any FLEX software with the exception of the FLEX printer spooler capability.

We are also working on a version of FLEX which will run on a computer system configured to run Uniflex². Currently, the DOS and several machine drivers must be changed to switch a system between FLEX and Uniflex². This special version of FLEX will allow one to boot and run FLEX² on the Uniflex² system without any changes. The only limitations in this version of FLEX are that printer spooling will not be supported and there will be no hard disk drivers.

Translating other software between FLEX² and Uniflex², such as BASIC or PASCAL source files is a simple matter. Many of these programs will run unmodified or will require only minor modifications to run. (FLEX² is provided with a utility which can copy FLEX files from a disk into a new or a Uniflex² disk. We will very shortly make available a utility which copies files the other way, i.e., Uniflex² to FLEX².

We have been receiving many questions concerning upcoming Uniflex² support software. Some of the soon to be released programs include: Relocating Assembler and Linker Loader, Extended Utility Package, ASIS Standard Toolkit², and a full specification C Compiler. Software in the works for release over the next twelve months includes: Screen Oriented Word Processing Package, COBOL Compiler, APL Compiler, various language library packages, as well as several interfaces. Uniflex² has been extremely popular and we will be supporting it quite heavily in the upcoming months. Many of the above mentioned programs will also be available for 6809 FLEX².

PO Box 2570 • 1208 Kent Avenue • West Lafayette, Indiana 47906 • (317) 463-2502



MICROWARE.

Microware Systems Corporation
1208 Kent Avenue, Box 2500, West Lafayette, Indiana 47906
(317) 463-2502

July 24, 1981

Don Williams
68 Micro Journal
3010 Hamill Road
Hixson, TN 37343

Dear Don,

Thanks for sending me a copy of Dave MyDerg's letter. I found his comments most interesting and typical of many questions that have been asked of us regarding compatibility of "old" 6800 and 6809 software on OS-9.

It is true that it is mandatory for assembly language programs written for both OS-9 Level One and OS-9 Level Two to be position-independent code (PIC). There are several good reasons for this.

First, it allows OS-9 to use software memory management on smaller (less than 64k) machines that don't have hardware memory management.

Second, it permits two or more programs or software modules to be loaded into memory at the same time without overlaying each other. For example, both an editor and assembler program can be co-resident without the need to reassemble one or the other. This lets you load and use several programs in memory without time consuming disk operations.

Third, it makes it possible for two or more users to "share" the same physical copy of a program or program without the need to load additional copies. This can reduce the overall system memory requirements considerably. This is why a 56K OS-9 system can run several Basic users without "swapping".

PIC is NOT required for shuffling memory around on a moment-by-moment basis as Dave surmised. It is physically impossible to do so because the 6809 keeps absolute addresses on its stack. It is required so OS-9 can initially load programs into any memory space not already in use by something else.

The requirement to use PIC on OS-9 is not costly in terms of program size or speed, thanks to the 6809's PC-relative addressing mode. Old programs have to be edited to change JMP instructions to LBRAS, etc. These programs have to be edited anyway because the interfaces to the operating system are considerably different in OS-9 and Uniflex than in Flex, for example.

PIC is mandatory on OS-9 Level One systems because all tasks reside in the same address space. However, in OS-9 Level Two each task has its own address space so non-PIC code can be executed under controlled circumstances. Therefore it is possible that a "flex-adaptor" subsystem, as Dave suggested, could be written for OS-9 Level Two, but not for Level one. The "Flex-adaptor" could probably handle many Flex programs as-is, with the notable exception of those programs that interface directly to I/O devices or the physical disk structure. I should mention that Microware has no plans to offer this kind of adaptor for Flex, DOS, or any other OS at this time.

Is conversion an unfair burden to impose on those persons who have a large library of software written for 6800/6809 Flex, QOS-9, etc.? I don't think so. The program modifications required are usually not that imposing, and we offer OS-9 software tools which make conversion jobs easier. For example, using our Macro Text Editor (which is really an interactive string processing language) you can create a library of editing procedures that will do much of the

conversion automatically. And the OS-9 Assembler has special capabilities for production of PIC programs (it even prints warning messages on non-PIC instruction lines).

What do you get in exchange for your efforts? OS-9 is friendlier, easier to use, faster, more reliable, better documented, and has much, much more capability than other 6800 or 6809 operating systems.

This is not the first time, nor will it be the last time, that the conversion problem will confront us because we all use the products of a rapidly developing and changing technology. My advice is to anticipate and prepare for change. What will everybody do when the 68000 chip (and its successors) cost \$10 each? The conversion from the 6809 to the 68000 is more complex than the conversion from the 6800 to the 6809 because the 6809 uses a superset of 6800 instructions, but the 68000 has a much different instruction set than the 6809.

Probably the wisest course is to write both application and system software in high-level languages (especially using Pascal and C compilers) which are more portable from CPU to CPU. This has not been possible before but the new breed of languages (such as the OS-9 Pascal compiler) let you do those things that previously were only possible or reasonable to do in assembly language. This will protect your software investment in the future. Software written for OS-9 in PASCAL, BASIC9, C, COBOL, etc., will execute on the forthcoming 68000 versions without conversion.

There is no better time than today to "bite the bullet" and switch over. The world in general (including the 68XX community) is rapidly climbing aboard the UNIX bandwagon for many good reasons. Almost every new micro and mini operating system being written today is based on UNIX, so by converting to OS-9 now you'll be compatible for a long, long time.

That's my two cents worth, Don. I hope that my comments will be of value to Dave and everyone else who has hesitated to enjoy the pleasures of the 6809 because of fear of conversion hassles.

Warmest Regards,

Ken Kepian

Ken Kepian
Microware



PO Box 2570 • 1208 Kent Avenue • West Lafayette, Indiana 47906 • (317) 463-2502

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT Uniflex² Basic Version 2

Version 2 of Uniflex² Basic contains several features not found in Version 1. Most of these are enhancements suggested by our customers. We are grateful to them for their suggestions. This document summarizes the new features of Basic 2 and also lists some of its drawbacks.

Added Features

The most significant addition to Basic is the statement editor command. This command allows the user to change an existing statement in the Basic program without having to retype the entire statement. In order to make the editor even more useful, Basic has been modified so that if it detects an error when a statement is being typed or loaded from a disk file (unbalanced parentheses, for example), the erroneous statement is changed into a remark. The user may then use the editor to correct the statement and not have to retype the line or reload the file. If this occurs when loading from a disk file, the loading process will not stop when such errors are detected, but it will proceed until the entire file is loaded, reporting errors as it goes. All of the offending lines will have been converted to remarks so that the user may then correct them with the editor.

The "fre(0)" function was not very useful in Basic 1. In Basic 2, this function has been replaced by the "num(0)" function. This function returns the number of bytes currently being consumed by Basic. Included in this number is the size of Basic itself, its run-time variables and stack, as well as any space used by the user's program and data.

A new string constant "terms" is available which is always equal to the terminal number associated with Basic. This number is a string with no leading or trailing spaces.

A "cbs" statement is available which allows the program to change directories while running.

Under Basic 1, the only way that one Basic program could pass information to a program in which it chained was through a disk file. In Basic 2, it is possible for programs to declare an area as being "common". Strings may be declared in this common area with a form of the "field" statement, and values stored in these strings with the "iset" and "rset" statements. Integer and floating point values are stored in these strings by using "iset" or "rset" in conjunction with the "convert" functions.

Drawbacks

The additional features of Basic 2 do not come without a price. Basic 2 is somewhat larger than Basic 1, so that if a user had a program which

barely fit in memory with Basic 1, it may not fit with Basic 2. The most serious drawback is that the "compiled" form of Basic programs is significantly different between Basic 1 and Basic 2. Basic 2 cannot run programs that have been "compiled" under Basic 1. Similarly, Basic 1 cannot run programs "compiled" by Basic 2. This also holds true for the UniFLEX Basic Precompiler. Basic 2 will only run programs that have been compiled under version 2 of the Precompiler. We are sorry to say that the changes in the "compiled" format are so major that it is not possible to write a conversion program to convert from Basic 1 to Basic 2. All programs will have to be recompiled under Basic 2 or Basic Precompiler 2. We realize that this is an inconvenience, especially to those who sell applications programs in "compiled" form. However, we feel that the enhancements are worth it.

Basic 2 will become the "standard" UniFLEX Basic and will be the only version that we sell. It is now available as an update under our usual UniFLEX update procedures. As long as it is does not become an excessive burden, we will attempt to maintain Basic 1 along with Basic 2, so if you do not want to convert to Basic 2 you may request updates for Basic 1. However, maintenance on Basic 1 will not be renewed when your current maintenance agreement expires.

Please remember that you must also upgrade your Basic Precompiler (if you have one) when you upgrade your Basic.

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 1981

MICROCOMPUTER LINE NOW AVAILABLE UNDER GSA CONTRACT

WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA...SMOKE SIGNAL, manufacturers of the CHIEFTAIN (tm) Series of business computer systems, and PATHFINDER(tm) Development Systems, have just announced that these product lines are now available under GSA (General Services Administration) contracts.

The CHIEFTAIN and PATHFINDER computer systems are based on Motorola's 6800 and 6809 processors and are configured to the 88-50 bus. Business application software, development system software and tools, communications packages and high-level languages (such as COBOL, PASCAL, FORTRAN, BASIC) are all available from Smoke Signal for both lines of computer systems.

Smoke Signal computers range in capacity from single-user dual 5" floppy-based systems to dual 8" systems up to 8" Winchester hard disk systems with tape streamer options and multi-user capability. All Smoke Signal computer systems run OS-9 (LEVEL I and II (tm)), the UNIX-like multi-user, multi-tasking operating system developed by Microware Systems Corporation.

Smoke Signal will be exhibiting the CHIEFTAIN and PATHFINDER Series of computer systems at the Federal Computer Conference, Sept. 21-23, in Washington D.C., booth #25. Information on the new Smoke Signal GSA schedule and contract will be provided at the conference.

For further information, please contact: Jim Allday
National Sales Manager
-and-
Deborah Conrad, Manager
Dealer Sales and Support

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 DAVIDSON SOFTWARE SYSTEMS
PO BOX 21002 • LANSING MICHIGAN 48909 • PHONE 517-332-5989

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

July 23, 1981

Editor
68 MICRO JOURNAL
3018 Hamill Road
P.O. Box 849
Nashville, Tennessee 37343

ENHANCED COMPUTERIZED DICTIONARY

Lansing, Michigan--Davidson Software Systems has just announced release 2 of the "Computerized Dictionary" software system. The programs run under the FLEX operating system. The product aids word processing users by editing text for spelling errors, a company spokesman said.

As in release 1, misspelled words are highlighted and can be changed automatically by the system. The system is said to operate in two modes for examining text information. In interactive mode, any words not found in the dictionary file are displayed. The operator then has an opportunity to ignore the word, key in a new word to replace it, or if the word is actually correct, add it to the dictionary file. Frequently misspelled words can be automatically changed by the system. For example, whenever the system encounters "their" it is changed to "their". As users correct their misspelled words, they can optionally instruct the system so thereafter automatically make the change.

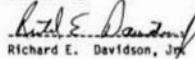
In list mode, the spokesman explained, the text will be printed or displayed as it is being processed. Any misspelled words are highlighted on the listing. No operator intervention is required when in list mode.

Release 2 is said to operate 30% to 50% faster. A full page of text, about 425 words, can be edited in 3 1/2 minutes (depending on the system configuration). An average size letter can be edited in 2 minutes or less.

A dictionary file is included with the system, although the user can add words at any time with one key stroke. The dictionary files can also be listed or displayed. All the system's functions are accessed from a menu for operator convenience.

The system comes complete, with an installation guide and operations manual, ready to use. Current licensees may receive release 2 for \$25.00 shipping charge. The package has a one time charge of \$100.00. For more information, contact Davidson Software Systems at Box 21002, Lansing, Michigan, 48909 or call 517-332-5989.

Released by


Richard E. Davidson, Jr.

July 12, 1981
946 Evans Rd.
Nashville, TN 37204

Mr. Don Williams, Sr.
'68 Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Rd.
P. O. Box 849
Nashville, TN 37343

Dear Sir:

Here is an item for the "Bit Bucket" that will be interesting to any folks still using SWTPC Co-Res Editor-Assembler version 1.01. The character string search routine uses the stack pointer as an index register, but doesn't properly save it - a sure invitation to disaster. The bug is at \$1A05, and the fix is as follows:

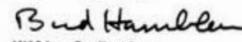
Old Code	New Code
Address	Address
1A05 8E	1A06 7E
1A07 1B	1A07 02
1A08 33	1A08 95
	0295 9F
	0296 3B
	0297 8E
	0298 1B
	0299 33
	029A 7E
	029B 1A
	029C D9

The code at \$0295 - \$02A7 is unreachable and I presume it's left over from some previous version of Co-Res. Anyway, it is a handy spot for patch code.

The bug doesn't cause Co-Res to bomb every time the search function is used. The stack pointer is saved at \$3B - \$3C in several other routines, and when the search routine restores the stack pointer with an LDS \$3B, it usually has the

right value. But sometimes it doesn't and that's when Co-Res goes off into never-never land, taking your program with it.

Very truly yours,


William R. Hamlin

 WINDRUSH
Micro designs Ltd.

Gwyners Way
Industrial Estate
North Walsham
Norfolk NR8 0AH
Tel (0803) 6468
Fax: 878212

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Date 29/6/81

PRESS RELEASE INFORMATION

Windrush Micro Designs Ltd., Gaymers Way Industrial Estate, North Walsham, Norfolk announce the introduction of their REAL WORLD INTERFACE for use in S-50 based 6800 and 6809 MICROCOMPUTER SYSTEMS. The boards, as it's name implies, is intended to interface a microcomputer with industrial control systems.

FEATURES

- EIGHT CHANNELS OF RELAY OR OPTICALLY ISOLATED INPUT.
- EIGHT CHANNELS OF RELAY OR OPTICALLY ISOLATED OUTPUT.

'68' Micro Journal

A FAST METHOD OF DATA TRANSFER

Bud Pass
Computer Systems Consultants
1454 Latte Lane
Conyers, GA 30287

This article provides two short FLEX utility programs which are capable of reading data from a PIA port, implementing a local CENTRONIX interface. One program is intended to be used to send data to a printer, and the other is intended to be used to send text to a disk file. The only difference between the programs is that the second program filters most control characters from the data being placed on the disk.

This approach to data transfer has several major advantages. The primary advantage is its speed advantage over serial interfaces. Using this method, data may be transferred at 28,600 characters per second or better. Another advantage is flexibility; even non-FLEX (or non-6800) systems which implement a parallel CENTRONIX interface protocol (as most do) may be used as data sources. Still another advantage lies in its simplicity of expansion; the routines may be combined with other utilities, such as P.S.Q.O.S.P. etc. to perform a variety of functions. In addition, because of the inherent bidirectional handshaking arrangement of the CENTRONIX interface protocol, there is no problem in stopping the input data stream to allow time for disk I/O or a slow printer or other device.

The CENTRONIX interface protocol is defined as follows:

eight output data lines, active high;
one output data strobe line, active low;
one input data acknowledgement line, active high.

This is normally implemented on a PIA (for output) as follows:

eight output data lines (D0-D7);
output data strobe line (C2);
input data acknowledgement line (C1).

and is normally implemented on a PIA (for input) as follows:

eight input data lines (D0-D7);
input data strobe line (C1);
output data acknowledgement line (C2).

Other parallel protocols generally differ from the CENTRONIX protocol only in the sense of one or more of the lines, not in structural interpretation. Only minor changes to the routines should be necessary to interface non-CENTRONIX interface protocols.

Listings of the FLEX routines appear below. Most FLEX systems using a parallel printer will have the "B" side of the PIA used to drive the printer available. If necessary, the addresses of the PIA and ACIA may easily be changed. In order to give the user some control over the routines, the input ACIA is scanned whenever the PIA is scanned; if a key on the keyboard is struck, the routines terminate.

CENTRONICS RECEIVER FOR PRINTER XFER

CD 3	WARM	EQU	SCD03	FLEX WARM START
CD18	OUTPT	EQU	SCD18	FLEX PUT CHARACTER
EW1C	PIACA	EQU	SEW1C	PIA ADDRESS
0002	PIAAB	EQU	\$02	SIDE A=\$00, B=\$02
ED84	ACIAC	EQU	SE004	ACIA ADDRESS
ORG \$C100				
C100	EW1P	START	CLR	PIACA+PIAAB+1 ADDRESS DDR
C103	7F	ED1E	CLR	PIACA+PIAAB DDR INPUTS
C106	06	34	LDA	#\$34 C2 OUT MANUAL LOW
C108	B7	ED1F	STA	PIACA+PIAAB+1 PROGRAM IT
C10B	B6	EW1F	LDA	PIACA+PIAAB+1 CHECK FOR EDGE
C10E	2B	09	BMI	DATA YES, READ IT
C110	B6	EW04	LOA	ACIAC CHECK ACIA
C113	44		LSRA	
C114	24	F5	BCC	NEXT NO, LOOP
C116	7E	CD03	JMP	WARM EXIT TO FLEX
C119	B6	EW1E	LDA	PIACA+PIAAB GET DATA
C11C	B7	EW1E	STA	PIACA+PIAAB RESET
C11F	C6	3C	LDB	#\$3C C2 OUT MANUAL HIGH
C121	F7	EW1F	STB	PIACA+PIAAB+1
C124	C6	34	LDB	#\$34 C2 OUT MANUAL LOW
C126	F7	EW1F	STB	PIACA+PIAAB+1
C129	BD	CD18	JSR	OUTPT OUT UT TO FLEX
C12C	20	DD	BRA	NEXT GO BACK FOR M RE
END				START

8 ERROR(S) ETBCTED • CENTRONICS RECEIVER FOR FILE XFER

CD03	WARM	EQU	SCD03	FLEX WA M START
CD18	OUTPT	EQU	SCD18	FLEX PUT CHARACTER
EW1C	PIACA	EQU	SEW1C	PIA ADDRESS
0002	PIAAB	EQU	\$02	UFPSSET A=\$00, B=\$02
ED84	ACIAC	EQU	SE004	ACIA ADDRESS
ORG \$C100				
C100	EW1P	START	CLR	PIACA+PIAAB+1 ADDRESS DDR
C103	7F	ED1E	CLR	PIACA+PIAAB DDR INPUTS
C106	06	34	LDA	#\$34 C2 OUT MANUAL LOW
C108	B7	ED1F	STA	PIACA+PIAAB+1 PROGRAM IT
C10B	B6	EW1F	LDA	PIACA+PIAAB+1 CHECK FOR EDGE
C10E	2B	09	BMI	DATA YES, READ IT
C110	B6	EW04	LOA	ACIAC CHECK ACIA
C113	44		LSRA	
C114	24	F5	BCC	NEXT NO, LOOP
C116	7E	CD03	JMP	WARM EXIT TO FLEX
C119	B6	EW1E	LDA	PIACA+PIAAB GET DATA
C11C	B7	EW1E	STA	PIACA+PIAAB RESET
C11F	C6	3C	LDB	#\$3C C2 OUT MANUAL HIGH
C121	F7	EW1F	STB	PIACA+PIAAB+1
C124	C6	34	LDB	#\$34 C2 OUT MANUAL LOW
C126	F7	EW1F	STB	PIACA+PIAAB+1
C129	84	7F	ANDA	#\$7F MASK PARITY
C12B	B1	0D	CMPA	#\$0D CR
C12D	27	08	BEQ	OUTPUT
C12F	B1	28	CMPA	#\$28 SP
C131	25	D8	BLO	NEXT IGNORE OTHER CONTROLS
C133	B1	7F	CMPA	#\$7F DEL
C135	27	D4	BHQ	NEXT IGNORE DELE
C137	BD	CD18	JSR	OUTPT OUTPUT TO FLEX
C13A	2B	CF	BRA	NEXT GO BACK FOR MORE
END				START

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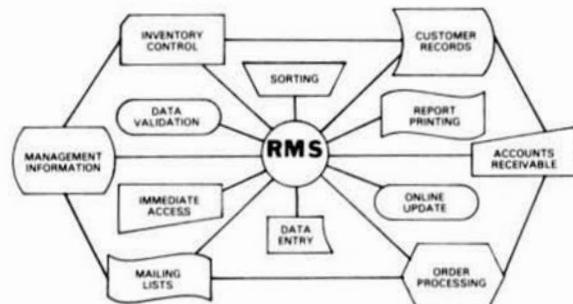
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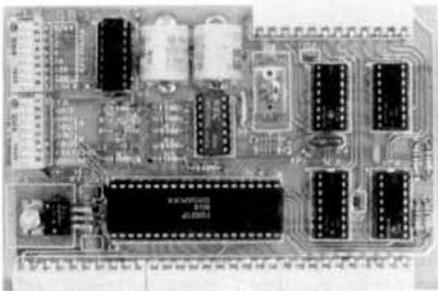
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HELP! Has any of your readers interfaced the Radio Shack Daisy Wheel II Printer to an SWTPC 6800 or 6809 system via the parallel interface card? If so, I would be very much interested in details, both hardware and software. I've been able to hook up the Radio Shack Quick Printer (which uses the 4 inch aluminumized paper) without any trouble and only a minor software change, but can't seem to do the same for the Radio Shack Daisy Wheel II. Any help anyone can give me will be greatly appreciated. The PRINT, SYS. routine supplied by TSC for FLEX 2 does not seem to do the job for this printer, and I lack the expertise in assembly language programming to do the job myself. If anyone out there has already solved this problem, please let me know your price for sharing the information with me. Also, because of the good response to an earlier request Thank you, Tony Niesz, 444 Mix Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514.

I have a SWTPC 6800 ad a Commandor VIC-20, and I was wondering if you could help me with a hardware problem of connecting a MP-C to the serial port on the VIC, as the VIC doesn't have separate data in, data out line. Also, I was wondering if you could tell me what difference there are between the MICROCHROMA 68 and the MICROCHROMA II, i.e. Is it just a revised product or have any major changes been made? Yours truly, David Speight 701 University Blvd. Apt 158 Mobile, ALA 36688.

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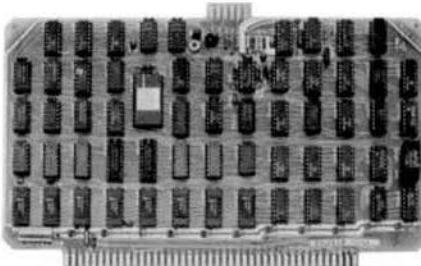
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The Assembler features all of the following: complete 6809 instruction set; complete 6800 set supported for cross-assemble; conditional assembly; local labels; assembly to cassette tape or to memory; listing to screen or printer; and mnemonic error codes instead of numbers.

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SDS80C Price: \$89.95

CRACK THOSE ROMS!

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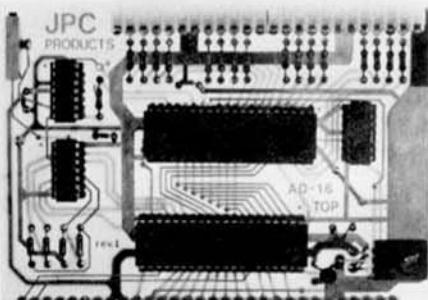
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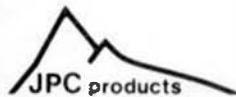
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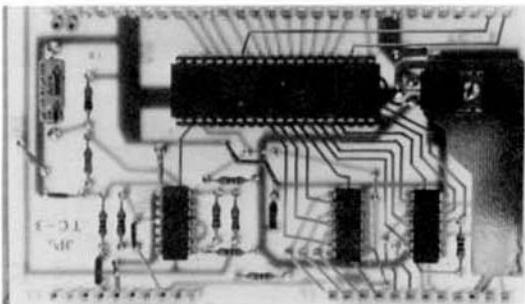
HUMBUG is available for 6800, 6802, and 6809 CPU boards made by SWTP, Gimix, Percom, and Star-Kits. It supports a serial terminal, or video boards made by Percom, Thomas, or F&D. It comes in either 2708 or 2716 EPROMs, and in either 2K, 3K or 4K versions, at prices ranging from \$40 to \$75 which include a full manual and full source code. There are several versions, depending on your hardware configuration, and it's a good idea to get our catalog and HUMBUG spec sheet first. If you want it real fast, call us up any evening with a 300-baud modem and LIST HUMBUG.DAT on our computerized bulletin board. While you're at it, feel free to leave a message for other 68xx users on the system or even place an order.



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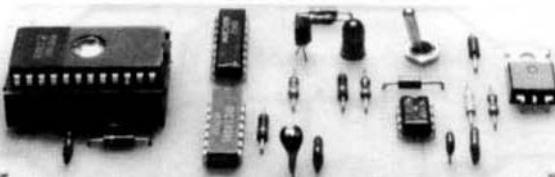
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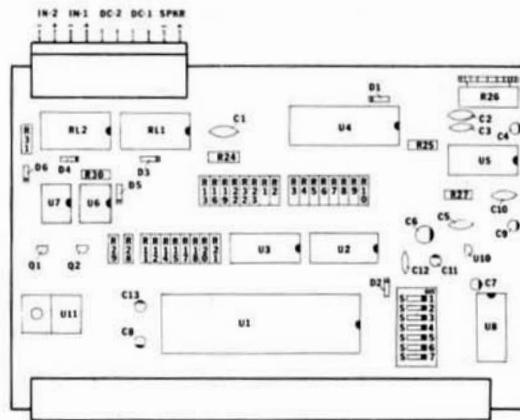
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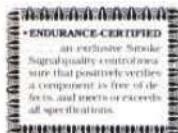
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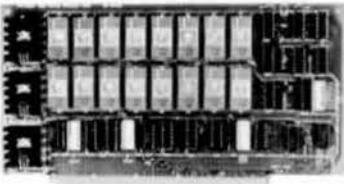
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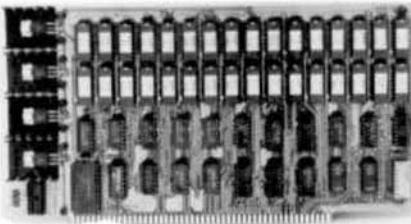
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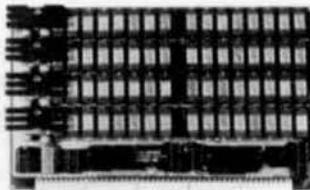
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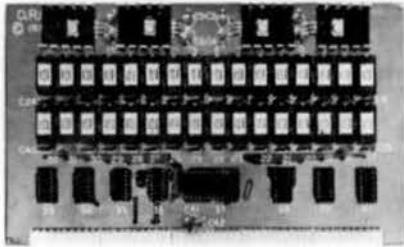
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EPROM type is selected by a personality module which plugs into the front of the programmer. Power requirements are 115 VAC 50/60 Hz, at 15 watts. It is supplied with a 36-inch ribbon cable for connecting to microcomputer. Requires 1½ I/O ports. Priced at \$169.00 with one set of software. (Additional software on disk and cassette for various systems.) Personality modules are shown below.

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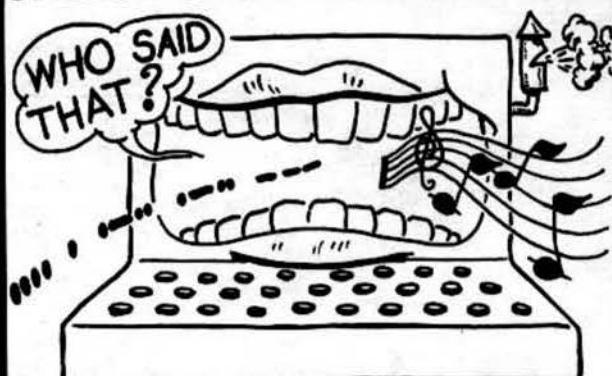


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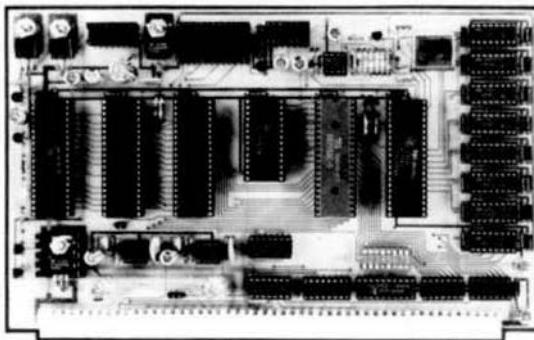
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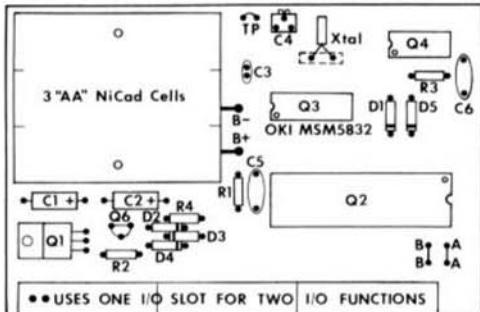
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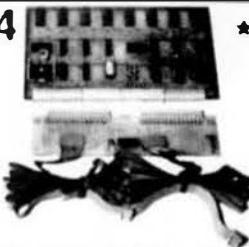
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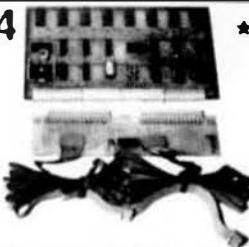
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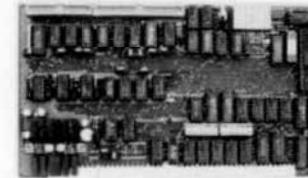
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#68 fully assembled, burned in, and tested

\$548.68

GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO DISK CONTROLLER #28

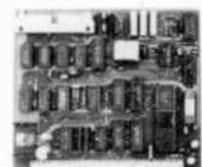
The GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO (PROGRAMMED I/O) DISK CONTROLLER is a versatile floppy disk interface for use in 6800 systems on the SS-50 or SS-50C bus. The board physically occupies one slot of the 30 pin I/O bus.

- Double the unformatted storage capacity of single density controllers
- Single and double density operation
- Phase lock data recovery circuit (data separator)
- Adjustable write precompensation (precomp)
- Controls up to four 5 1/4" drives
- Controls single and double headed drives
- Designed to meet the data hold-time requirements of the Western Digital 1797 floppy disk controller IC

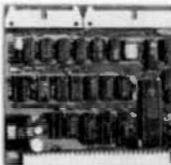
The GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO DISK CONTROLLER is ideal for systems that require greater capacity than that provided by single density controllers, without increasing the number or type of drives. In most cases existing 6800 systems can be upgraded by adding only the controller and the appropriate operating system software.

#28 fully assembled, burned in and tested

\$348.28



GIMIX 5/8 DISK CONTROLLER BOARD #58



The GIMIX 5/8 DISK CONTROLLER is a versatile floppy disk interface for use with both 6800 and 6809 systems on the SS-50 or SS-50C bus. The board physically occupies one slot of the 30 pin I/O bus.

- Hardware and software compatible with existing disk controllers (GWTAC DC 1, DC 2 and DC 3)
- Controls up to four 5 1/4" drives in 6800 systems
- Controls any mix of 5 1/4" and 8" drives, up to four drives total, in 6809 systems
- Provides for double headed drives
- Synchronizes data separator for data reliability
- Designed to meet the data hold-time requirements of the 1797 floppy disk controller IC.

The GIMIX 5/8 DISK CONTROLLER is ideal for a variety of applications including the requirements of commercial or engineering systems. It is recommended to add the added advantage of a data separator, double headed drive capability, and a 6809 system to the #58 if 8" drives, double headed drives and/or multiple drives are required.

#58 fully assembled, burned in, and tested

\$228.58

NOTE: When ordering disk controllers please specify the make and model of the drives being used.

GIMIX 6809 FLEX™

GIMIX™ versions of TECHNICAL SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS 6809 FLEX™ operating system are available for all three GIMIX disk controllers. They fully support all the features of each controller and are software compatible with other versions of FLEX™. GIMIX FLEX™ includes a disk FORMAT program that allows the user to pick the number of tracks to format, single or double sided disks, and where appropriate single or double density.

GIMIX FLEX™ supports single and double track density (48 and 96 TPI 5 1/4" drives and allows 96 TPI (80 track) drives to read, write, or format 48 TPI (35 or 40 track) disks. MICROWARE's OS-9™ level 1 for GIMIX™ SYSTEMS specify controller and type of drive: 8" or 5 1/4" 40 track (48TPI) or 80 track (96TPI) \$195.00

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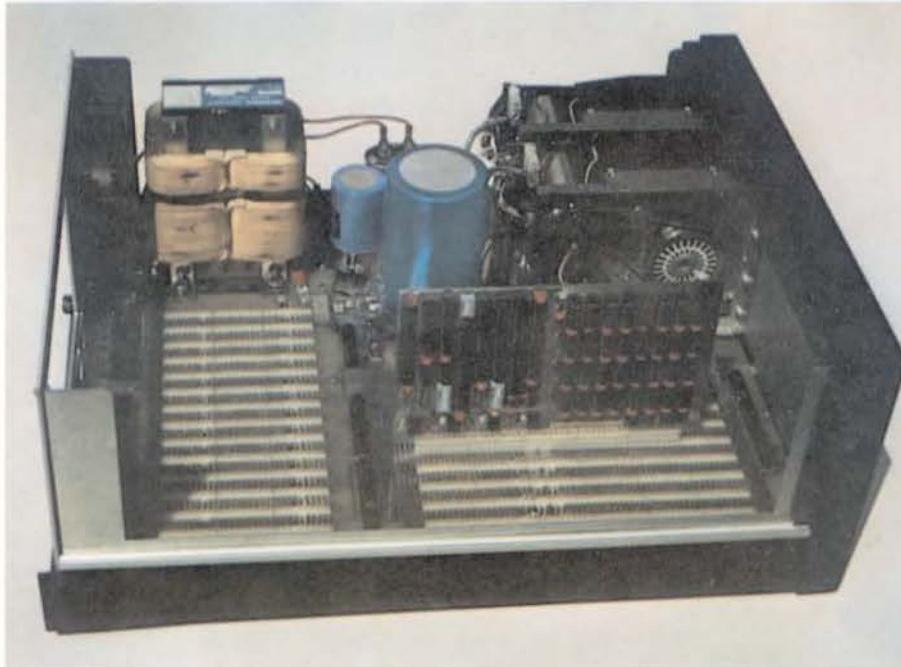
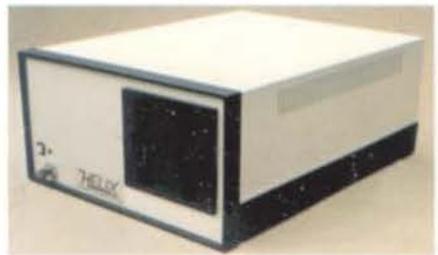
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- Tested at 2.5 MHz Operation

DM-512

- 512K Bytes on a Single S-84 Board
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- Full 24 Bit Addressing
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THE PRICES

Because of the variety of configurations possible, full pricing cannot be given. Representative prices are:

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|--------------------------|--------|
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| • 64K 68000 HELIX | \$2595 |
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